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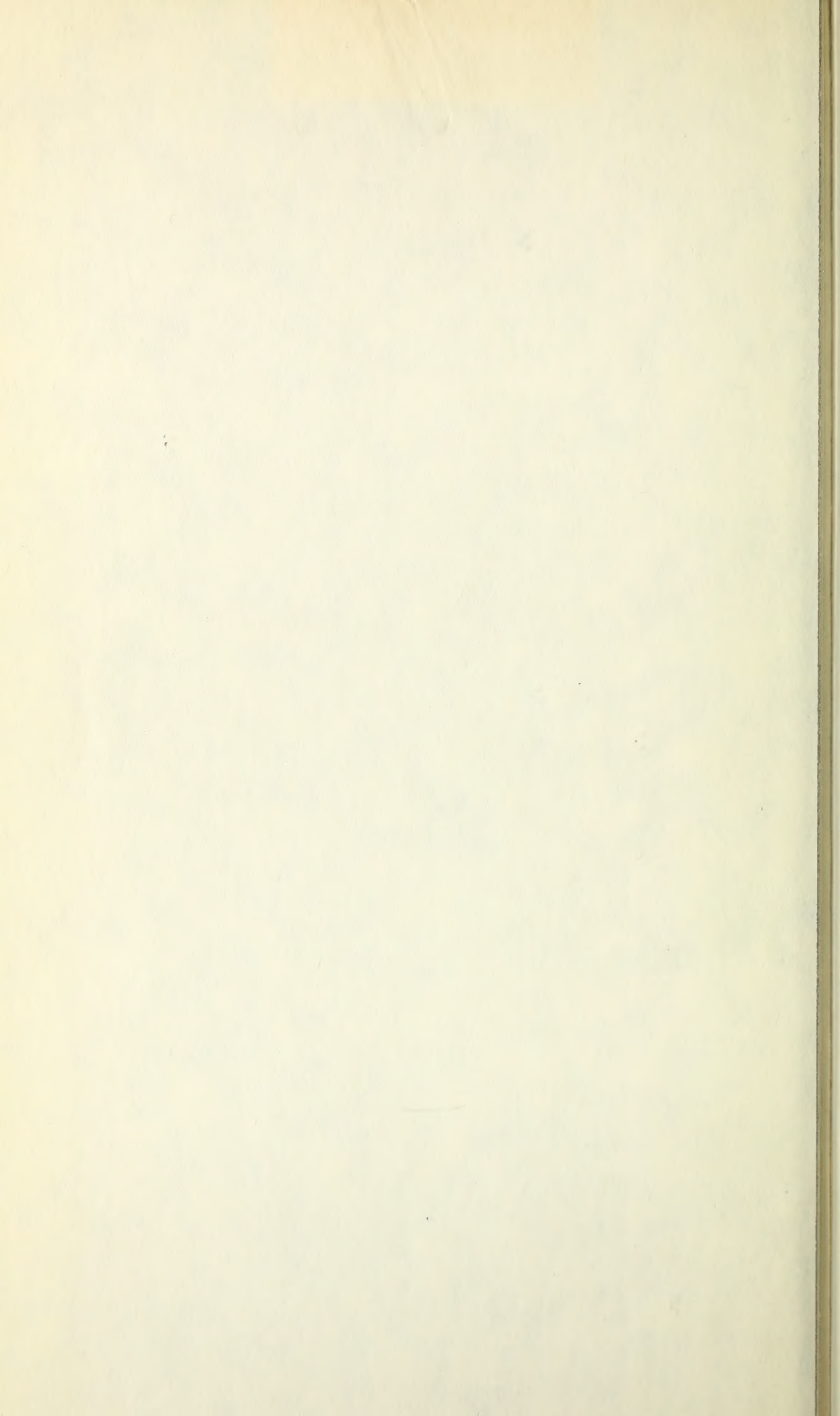
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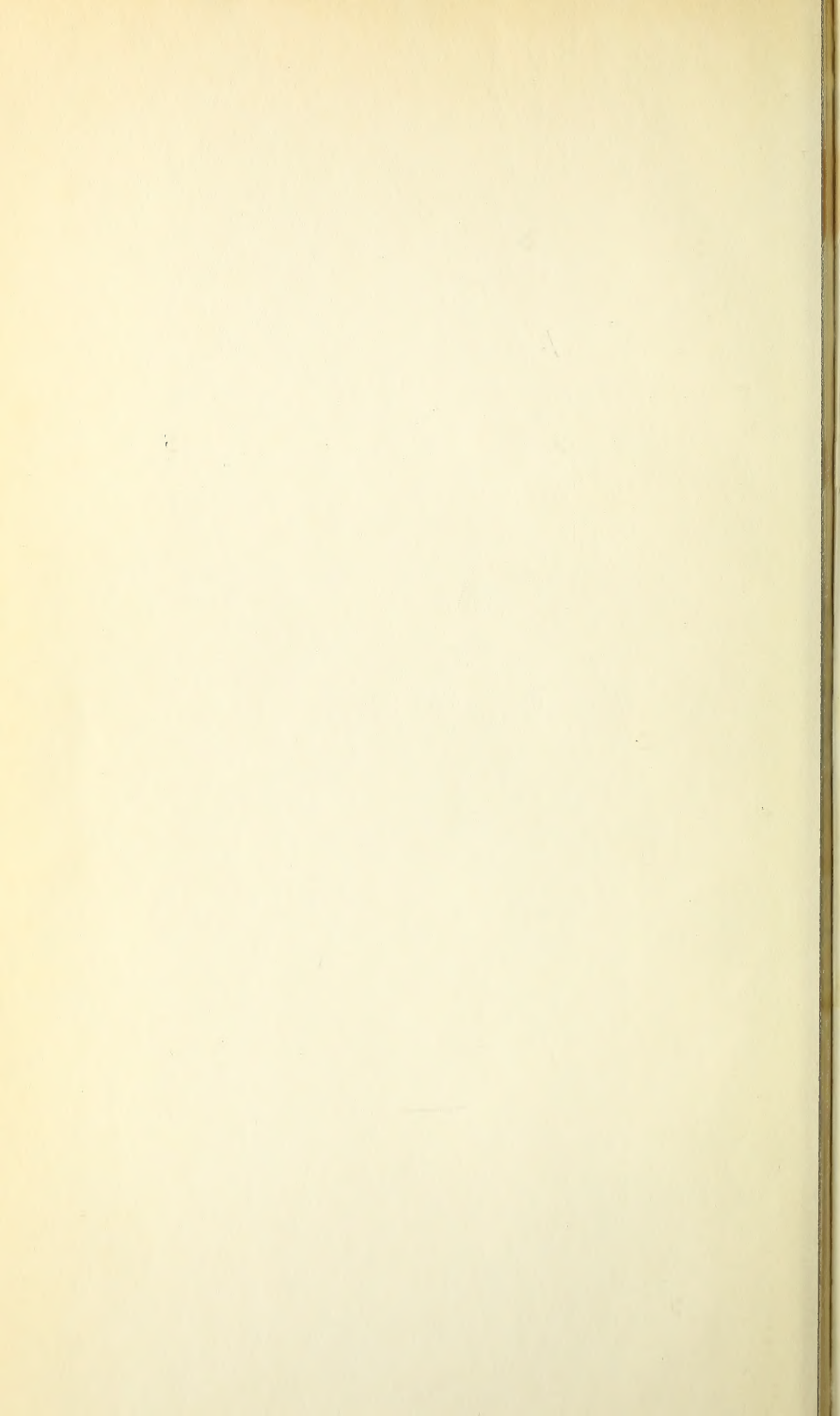
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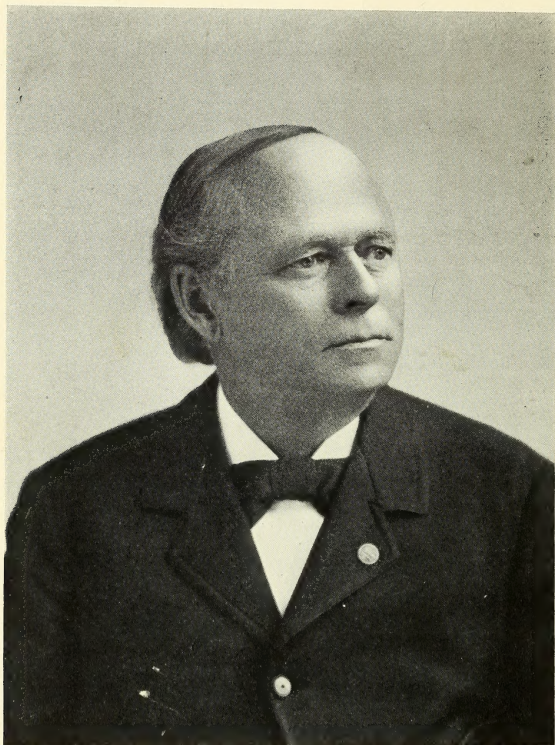


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RICHARD W. MUSGROVE



HISTORY  
OF THE  
TOWN OF BRISTOL

GRAFTON COUNTY

NEW HAMPSHIRE

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IN TWO VOLUMES

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VOLUME I — ANNALS

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BY  
RICHARD W. MUSGROVE

BRISTOL, N. H.  
Printed by R. W. Musgrove  
1904

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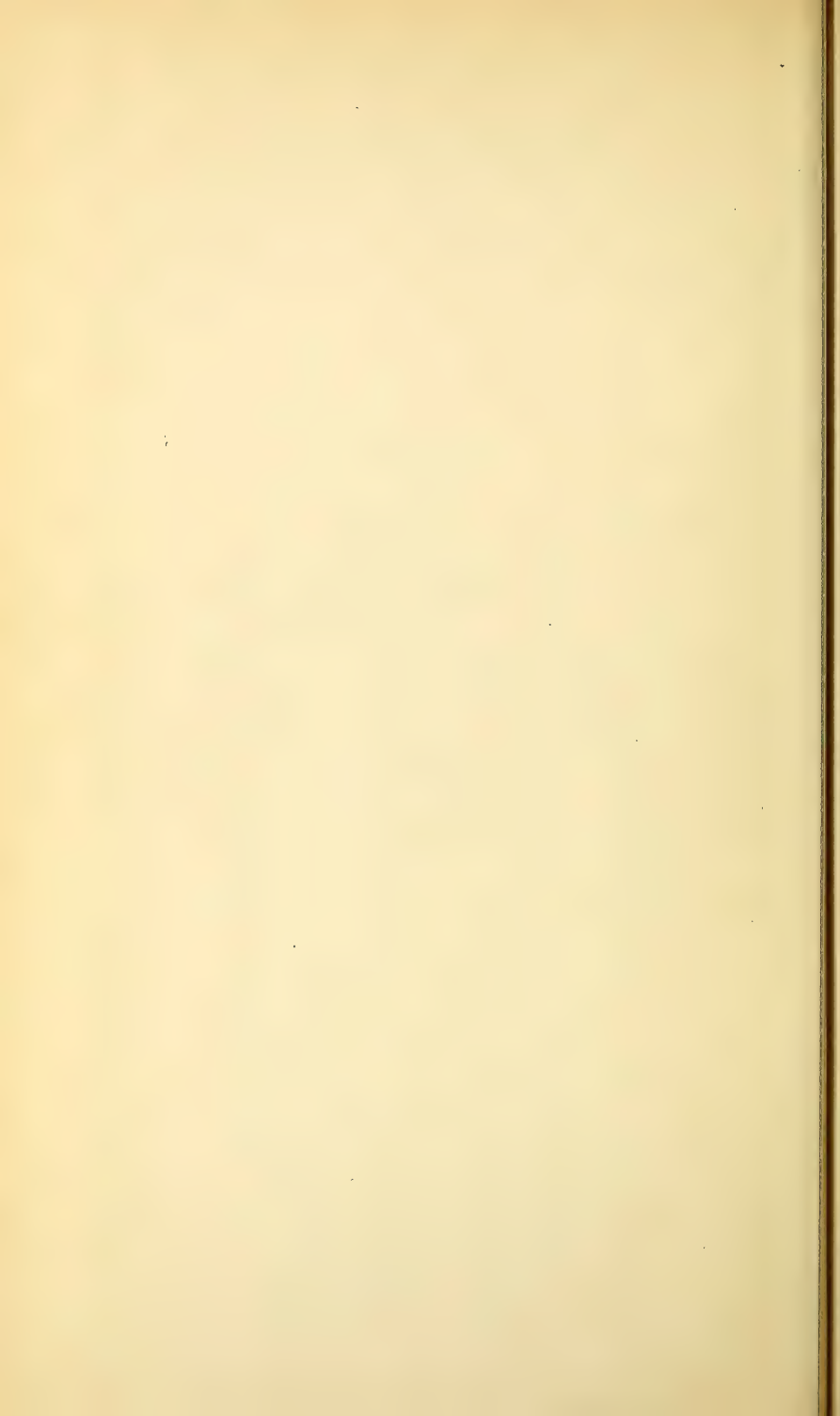
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One generation shall praise thy works to another,  
And shall declare thy mighty acts.

—*David.*

Breathes there a man with soul so dead  
Who never to himself hath said  
This is my own, my native land !

—*Scott.*





## INTRODUCTION

The History of Bristol is here presented with no apology for its appearance. It was called into being by the conviction that it ought to be. This conviction first took shape in June, 1879. At that time the building at the corner of Central square and Spring street was being remodeled, and a brick was discovered in the chimney marked "1795." This was thought to be the date when the building was erected. To gather some light on this point, we sought an interview with two venerable residents of the village, Mrs. Solomon Cavis and Miss Jane Bartlett, and listened with great interest to a narrative of what they knew of the subject, and to their description of the people and the village when they were young. This interview impressed us with the importance of preserving the facts learned, and the same day a record was made. From that time dates the work on this history, and from that time interviews with the old people of the town constituted a source of great delight which grew with the passing years, until a desire to write the history of our native town took possession of our very being and was an ever present incentive to work. Every hour that could be spared from the regular routine of life has been gladly devoted to this end.

The question of publication was a serious one. Though a printer and able therefore to place the work on the market at the minimum cost, we were warned by the experience of others that our bank account was hardly sufficient to warrant us to undertake, unaided, the additional expense of publication. The use of historical matter from time to time in the columns of the local paper had created a desire for a town history, and on the recommendation of friends, an article was inserted in the warrant for the town meeting in November, 1900, to see if the town would appoint a committee whose duty it should be to examine any town history that may have been written, with a view to its endorsement by the town if found worthy.

The town voted to instruct the selectmen to appoint a committee of five, and Hon. Ira A. Chase, Dr. George H. Calley, Dr. Channing Bishop, Charles W. Fling, Esq., and Postmaster Fred H. Ackerman were appointed.

The committee examined the manuscript, and were unanimous that the work should be printed, and in two volumes, the first devoted to the annals of the town, the second to genealogies, and that the town should take two hundred sets at five dollars per set, and so reported at the annual town meeting in March, 1902. The town generously voted without a dissenting voice to adopt the recommendation of the committee. This action was especially pleasing because it gave the town's unqualified endorsement of our efforts, and also guaranteed the publication of the

history without further loss. The generous action of the town is fully appreciated and here gratefully acknowledged.

It is not claimed that the work has literary merit. It is simply the product of hard labor inspired by love for the work rather than of any fitness for the duty.

It is a source of deep regret that the time and means at our disposal did not allow us to include in this work the whole history of the old town of New Chester, embracing what is now the towns of Hill, Bristol, and Bridgewater. Much of the early history of these towns is given and the ecclesiastical history of both Hill and Bridgewater is brought down to the present time.

In common with all works of this nature errors and mistakes will probably be found. We only claim that all that careful work and close scrutiny could do has been done to make its pages accurate and reliable.

The author acknowledges his indebtedness to all who have assisted and encouraged him in his labors, especially to the members of the committee named above, and to his son, Eugene R. Musgrove, who wrote the chapters on Topography, Scenery, and Bristol in Literature, and drew the maps which embellish the work; to Charles W. Fling, Esq., who scrutinized the final proofs, and to Hon. Ezra S. Stearns, ex-secretary of state, who is now at work on the history of Plymouth, for valuable data.

We send these books out with the greeting of one native of the town, whose happiness it has been to spend his life among the hills of the town that gave him birth, to other natives and residents who have shared these delights and blessings with him, or who have gone forth to help found and build up other towns and states of our great country.

RICHARD W. MUSGROVE.

March, 1904.

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# HISTORY OF BRISTOL

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## CHAPTER I

### TOPOGRAPHY OF THE TOWN

The mountains! They proclaim  
The everlasting creed of liberty.

—*Bryant.*

The township of Bristol is situated in the southeastern corner of Grafton county, near the central part of New Hampshire, in latitude forty-three degrees, thirty-five minutes, and in longitude seventy-one degrees, forty-five minutes. It is bounded on the east by Bridgewater and New Hampton, on the south by New Hampton and Hill, on the west by Alexandria, on the north by Hebron and Bridgewater. The Pemigewasset river flows between Bristol and New Hampton, and Smith's river between Bristol and Hill, the town boundary being, in each case, in the middle of the stream. A considerable portion of the northern part of the township is occupied by Newfound lake, about two-thirds of which lies within the limits of Bristol. Territorially, Bristol is one of the smallest townships in the county. Its land area scarcely exceeds nine thousand acres, or about fourteen square miles.

The surface of Bristol is very mountainous. The Bridgewater range, with its undulating summits, enters the town from the north, and culminates in the highest point,<sup>1</sup> Bristol Peak, about two and one-half miles northeast of Bristol village. This summit is commonly called Peaked hill,<sup>2</sup> a name also applied to Bridgewater Peak, the northernmost summit of the range. Bristol Peak is, according to the United States coast survey, the highest elevation within the limits of the township. The old signal of

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<sup>1</sup> The state geological survey designates Bristol Peak as the highest summit in the range. Recent measurements and estimates, however, indicate that the summit just north of Bristol Peak is the highest.

<sup>2</sup> The nomenclature of this vicinity is peculiarly complicated. Some respectable summits are wholly unnamed, while several others are blessed with a number of cognomens. In all possible cases we have used the geographical names, and where there are none we have adopted the most popular and euphonious of the local appellations.

the coast survey was located at an altitude of 1,785 feet above tide water.<sup>1</sup>

The eastern slope of Bristol Peak is commonly considered a sheer precipice, and such it seems when viewed from the summit or when being scaled by an adventurous mountain-climber; but when viewed from a point of vantage to the north-northeast, the slope is seen to be about forty-five degrees. It is, however, very abrupt and scraggy, and is visited by only the most experienced climbers. The pastures at its base are about 550 feet below the summit. The southern slopes of Bristol Peak contain excellent pasture and tillage land. The pleasant farmhouse of Levi J. Nelson is situated at an elevation of 1,043 feet, and is surrounded by well cultivated and productive fields. On the north and northwest, the peak slopes gradually into the highlands of Bridgewater. In this locality is situated the Homans farmhouse, the highest in the township. Its altitude is about 1,350 feet.

Bristol Peak sends off two long ridges, one to the west and another to the southeast. The first culminates near the foot of Newfound lake in a thickly wooded summit known locally as Lead hill. Near the summit of this elevation is a once-famous lead mine, now almost hidden by a scrubby hemlock growth. The second ridge, unlike the first, presents several clearly defined summits. Briar hill, about three-fourths of a mile southeast of Bristol Peak, reaches an elevation of about 1,200 feet, and still farther to the southeast are two heavily wooded summits of slightly less elevation, whence the slope is rapid to the Pemigewasset river. Through the gap southeast of Briar hill passes the highway which leads into the old Locke neighborhood. The summit of this road is about 1,000 feet in elevation.

The second most prominent summit in the town, although not second in point of altitude, is New Chester mountain, commonly known as Round Top.<sup>2</sup> This peak is situated in the southern part of the township, just south of Bristol village.

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<sup>1</sup> Bristol Peak is the only summit in the township whose height has been carefully determined by unquestioned authority. The altitudes of some of the other summits have been measured with an aneroid barometer by Prof. Geo. L. Vose, of Brunswick, Me., who was a member of the state geological survey under Prof. C. H. Hitchcock. Prof. Vose spent the summer of 1900 in Alexandria, and did some careful work with a common aneroid, walking over eight hundred miles, including several ascents of Cardigan. His principal object was to learn how near the aneroid, as generally used, would come to the measurements of the coast survey. The result showed that the average of several measurements differs slightly from the figures of the coast survey, and that a single measurement with the aneroid can be regarded no better than a rough approximation. Several of the elevations given in this chapter are the result of only one measurement, and hence can be regarded as only approximate. The heights along the Pemigewasset and Newfound rivers, and the elevation of Newfound lake, were determined by the state geological survey.

<sup>2</sup> Until a few years ago this summit was not dignified by a well-known

It reaches the height of 1,103 feet; and its high eastern neighbor, known as Little Round Top, lacks only thirty-eight feet of attaining the same altitude. Through the gap between the two elevations runs the old road which was the first thoroughfare between Bristol and Hill, the summit of which is 845 feet above sea level. The northern slopes of these hills are gradual, being occupied by dwellings and well-cultivated fields; but their southern slopes are thickly wooded, and descend rapidly to Smith's river. Across the valley, in Hill, rise the three densely wooded summits of Periwig, sometimes called Tri-Peak. The highest summit reaches an altitude of 1,235 feet. Periwig forms the abrupt culmination of a considerable mountain range which extends westward through the northern part of the township of Hill, the range presenting the bald summit of Bartlett hill, 1,460 feet, about three miles west of Periwig; Page mountain, 1,750 feet; and Wilson mountain, 1,900 feet, the last named known also as Garland and Hemlock hills. Wilson mountain is probably the highest summit wholly within the limits of the old town of New Chester.

Bristol is bordered on the west by a range of hills of considerable elevation. The range has a general northerly and southerly direction, and is known locally as the Alexandria hills. The southernmost summit, Gordon's hill, lies in the southeastern corner of Alexandria. It reaches an elevation of about 1,200 feet, and is the highest land in the range. The next summit to the north, Burns's hill, is probably more widely known than any of the others, on account of its ancient burying ground. Its altitude is about 1,100 feet. From Burns's hill the range turns slightly toward the east into Bristol, where it soon reaches the summit of Gale's hill, known also as Hemp hill, about 1,150 feet in height. Between Burns's and Gale's hills runs the road from Bristol village to Alexandria village, the summit of which, a few rods west of the town line, is 916 feet above sea level. Cross's hill, otherwise known as Cross's ledges, is a bald summit a short distance east of Gale's hill, and slightly inferior to its neighbor in altitude. From this point the range continues, with no clearly defined summits, to the foot of Newfound lake, sending off gradual slopes to the northwest, and falling rapidly to Newfound river on the east and southeast.

Along the eastern side of the Newfound valley extends a mountain wall of considerable dimensions—the Sugar Hill range. What is popularly called Sugar hill is not a clearly defined

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name. It was commonly spoken of as The Mountain. About twenty years ago the *Bristol Enterprise* christened the summit Round Top, from its resemblance to Round Top at Gettysburg. The name became popular and has since been generally used. Very recently have been found early town records in which the summit is designated as New Chester mountain, which is certainly a very fitting and appropriate appellation.

summit—it is merely the culmination of a series of summits. Viewed from Bristol village, however, it appears a hill in every sense of the word, rising abruptly almost within the limits of the village to the height of 476 feet above Central square, or 945 feet above sea level. The true summit of the Sugar Hill range is near its northern extremity near the foot of Newfound lake. Its height has never been determined, but conservative estimates place it at about 1,200 feet. The western slopes of the Sugar Hill range are precipitous and ledgy, while the eastern slopes descend gradually into the fertile fields and meadows at the base of Bristol Peak.

The extreme eastern portion of the township contains several respectable elevations which are destitute of names except local appellations known only to the people of the immediate neighborhood. Prominent among them is Pine hill.

Newfound lake, and its outlet, Newfound river, stand preeminent in their particular department of the physical features of this region. Newfound lake is a splendid body of water lying almost wholly within the townships of Bristol and Hebron. A few acres of water, near the Ledge, are in Alexandria, but not a square foot is possessed by Bridgewater, the western boundary of that township following the eastern shore of the lake at high water mark. The lake has a length of slightly more than seven miles from north-northwest to south-southeast, and a width of about two and three-fourths miles from west to east. There are three larger lakes in the state—Winnepesaukee, Squam, and Sunapee—its area, exclusive of its islands, being about eight square miles. Its elevation, according to the state geological survey, is 590 feet.<sup>1</sup>

Of the four islands in Newfound lake, the three largest are in Bristol. The largest is Mayhew,<sup>2</sup> and is situated a mile from the outlet of the lake. Mayhew has an extent of forty acres, and its northern part rises about a hundred feet above the water. The island is sparsely wooded in parts, and its slopes yield immense quantities of blueberries and raspberries. The second island in size is Cliff island, about ten acres in extent, which is known also by the disgusting name Hog. It is situated near the extremity of Breezy point, from which it is separated by a narrow channel of water several feet deep. The northern part of Cliff island slopes gradually upward and terminates in an abrupt precipice. Belle island lies about forty rods east of Cliff;

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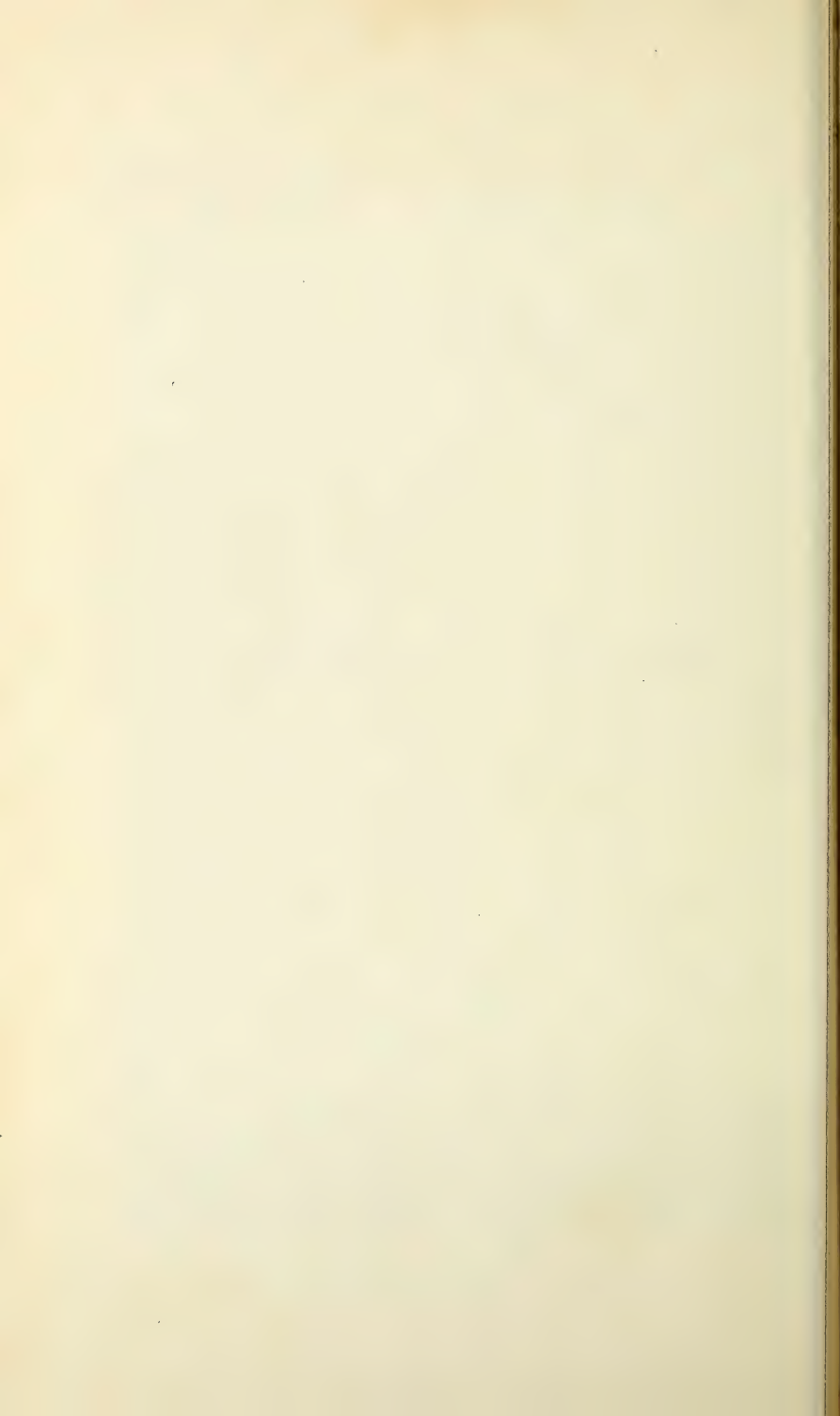
<sup>1</sup> By way of comparison we give the areas and elevations of the three largest lakes in the state: Winnepesaukee, 71.8 square miles, 502 feet; Squam, 15.6 square miles, 510 feet; Sunapee, 11.2 square miles, 1,103 feet.

<sup>2</sup> Mayhew island received its name from William Mayhew, who was a son of Peter Mayhew, the leading spirit in the building of the Mayhew turnpike. William Mayhew lived on the eastern side of the highway just south of the present house of E. T. Pike.





PROFILE FALLS, SMITH'S RIVER



it is nearly circular in shape, contains about three acres, and is beautifully wooded. Between these islands and Sugar Loaf the water is about 135 feet deep.<sup>1</sup> The only other island, Loon, lies close to the northeastern shore in the township of Hebron, and is but a speck on the surface of the lake.

Many beautiful sand beaches are found on the shores of the lake, among which are Carr's, just south of Fowler's river, Crescent, at the southern extremity of Crescent bay, and Nutting's, a short distance north of Sugar Loaf. These three beaches are on the western shore, and are, like the splendid beach at the foot of the lake, in Bristol territory. Of the streams flowing into the lake, Fowler's river on the west, Cockermouth river and Bog brook on the north, and the Richard Brown and Hemlock brooks on the east are worthy of mention. Cockermouth river and its tributaries drain a large portion of Hebron and Groton, and Fowler's river performs the same service in Alexandria.

Newfound lake empties its waters into the Pemigewasset through the agency of Newfound river, which is the most important stream in the township. This hill-bound river flows in a southerly direction for about two miles, and east-southeasterly for nearly half a mile. Within this short distance it has a fall of 238 feet, and its waters descend 105 feet during the last eighty rods of their journey. This remarkable fall furnishes excellent power for the many manufacturing establishments along the stream. Newfound river has no tributaries worthy of mention, the largest being the Sleeper brook, which rises on the eastern slope of Gale's hill and has a length of about a mile. Fowler's river flows across the northwestern part of the township and empties into Newfound lake just south of Breezy point. This stream rises among the foothills of Mt. Cardigan, and its numerous branches drain a large portion of the township of Alexandria. Just west of the Bristol town line it receives the waters of Foster pond from the south, and, at a point slightly nearer its source, the waters of Goose pond from the north. Its length is about eight miles. A part of the southern boundary of Bristol lies in the middle of Smith's river, which empties into the Pemigewasset at the southeastern extremity of the township after an easterly course of fifteen miles through Grafton, Danbury, Alexandria, Hill, and Bristol. Smith's river descends over a hundred feet during the last half mile, its falls including Profile falls, forty feet high.

<sup>1</sup> In the summer of 1899 members of Camp Pasquaney made careful soundings, with the following results: Midway between Sugar Loaf shore and East Hebron, 137 feet; 120 rods from Sugar Loaf in same direction, 109; directly under cliff, 69; 200 feet from cliff, towards Whittemore's point, 117; 300 feet, 135; 600 feet, 79; 500 feet east from Owl's Head, 101; 300 feet east from Rogers's point, 50; 1-2 miles northwest of Whittemore's point, 118; 1-3-4 miles out, 130. In nearly every sounding the bottom was found to be rock.

The Pemigewasset river, which rises in Profile lake,<sup>1</sup> flows along the eastern limits of the township. The general direction of the Pemigewasset-Merrimack river is south. Between New Hampton and Bristol is found the only marked deviation from this general direction between Profile lake and the Massachusetts line. Here the stream finds a passage through the mountainous region by flowing west, almost at right angles to its general direction. In the four miles<sup>2</sup> from New Hampton to Bristol the river descends 86 feet, forming the most rapid portion of the stream south of the East Branch. Similar rapids continue below Bristol, so that the total descent from the New Hampton bridge to the mouth of Smith's river is 118 feet.

The Pemigewasset receives from Bristol soil two considerable streams besides Newfound river. The first, Ten-Mile brook, has its source among the hills east of Bristol Peak, and flows south-southeasterly through the old Locke neighborhood to the river, about two miles distant. Its mouth is about a mile below Pemigewasset bridge. The second, Danforth's brook, rises at an elevation of 1,400 feet on the southwestern slope of Bristol Peak, and has a general southerly direction of two and one-half miles, emptying into the river near Worthen's rock. It has several branches, one of which rises near the foot of Newfound lake.

Hemlock brook rises on the northern side of Bristol Peak, and flows west-southwest, along the base of the range, to Newfound lake just below Pike's point. During its course of two and one-half miles it has a fall of 800 feet. The Clark brook rises on the eastern slope of Burns's hill, and flows along the western limits of the township to Smith's river, after a southerly journey of slightly more than a mile. Black brook, which empties into Newfound lake west of Mayhew island, is well known, but is hardly large enough to be dignified by a name, though one hundred years ago it was a stream of considerable size and known as Newfound Pond brook.

The physical geography and geology of Bristol is full of interest. The township lies near the northcentral part of the Merrimack basin, one of the natural geological divisions of the state. The district "may well represent the average physical appearance of New Hampshire, consisting of numerous hills and mountains, mostly cultivable, interspersed with sandy plains, alluvial flats, entirely underlaid by gneissic or granatic rocks."<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Profile lake is 45.2 miles from Bristol village by river; its elevation is 1,950 feet.

<sup>2</sup> Prof. Hitchcock gives the distances on the Pemigewasset river as follows: From Pemigewasset bridge to Central bridge, 4.2 miles; from Central bridge, to Smith's river, 2.3 miles; from Smith's river to Union bridge, Hill, 3.5 miles; from Hill to Franklin, 7 miles.

<sup>3</sup> C. H. Hitchcock, in *Geology of New Hampshire* Vol. I.



The sandy plains which are characteristic of the Merrimack valley commence at New Hampton. They are usually high up, and are narrow and undulating. "At Bristol they are cut off, and there is no correctness in Dr. Jackson's map representing the great bend opposite Bristol as composed of drift."<sup>1</sup> The great bend is practically destitute of modified drift, and therein it differs from all the rest of the valley. The characteristic terraces again commence opposite Bristol, whence the alluvial area extends unbroken through the state.

Remnants of the original high flood-plain are distinctly seen on both banks of the river from the East Branch to the Massachusetts line, but some of the most striking examples are found at the highest of two terraces at the mouth of the Ten-Mile brook; a small, gently sloping plain about midway between New Hampton and Bristol, and a similar area east of the highway a short distance northeast of Bristol. All these are in Bristol territory, and are about 500 feet above the sea.

Bristol abounds in splendid examples of erosion. The most interesting study in this particular department of geology concerns Newfound lake. There are strong indications that the lake was once at least twenty-five feet higher than at present, and that its waters were discharged through Foster pond and South Alexandria into Smith's river. A leading reason for this belief is that the present outlet of the lake has, by erosive action, cut through twenty-five feet of the loose till with which the lake is surrounded, and that Foster pond and the Alexandria meadows are less than that height above the present level of the lake.<sup>2</sup> Furthermore, the bed of this ancient river is easily traced between Foster pond and Smith's river. There is evidence of another ancient outlet from the southeastern corner of the lake through the Sleeper meadow and Danforth's brook.

One of the most noticeable examples of erosion in this part of the state is the gorge at Smith's river, about two-thirds of a mile from the Pemigewasset. From a quiet pool with sandy banks, the stream suddenly plunges into a narrow, rocky canon, thirty rods long and sixty feet deep, the water tumbling and foaming over the boulders that impede its course. At several points along the rapids in the Pemigewasset there is strong evidence that the channel has been cut through a considerable depth of till, and a similar evidence, though less prominent, appears in Newfound river near its mouth. In all of these streams pot holes are found. Fine examples of erosion occur also at

<sup>1</sup> C. H. Hitchcock, in *Geology of New Hampshire*, Vol. I.

<sup>2</sup> The average height of the Alexandria meadows above Newfound lake is about fifteen feet, and the level of Foster pond is scarcely twenty-five feet above that of the lake, although no survey has, in the latter case, been made. It is assumed, therefore, that the meadows and the pond were once overflowed by the lake.



the Ten-Mile brook, a few rods north of the main highway.

The rocks along the Pemigewasset river are for the most part schists, somewhat rusty. The rock forming the summit of Bristol Peak is mica schist, often badly decomposed, but showing in places glacial striæ pointing to the northwest. Bristol village is built almost wholly on ferruginous rock. Large specimens of graphite, or plumbago, are found in the township, and argentiferous galena, gold bearing quartz, and quartz crystals were formerly taken west of North Bristol, where a tunnel was bored three hundred feet into the solid rock.

We present here the heights of the principal points in the township. Of the elevations given, that of Bristol Peak was determined by the United States coast survey; those marked G, by the state geological survey; those marked B, by an aneroid barometer (see note 1, page 2); and others, marked est, are estimates of competent persons. The figures are as reliable as any obtainable.

Bristol Peak	1,785	Newfound river at Central square	G	457
Eastern base of Bristol Peak	B 1,249	Main street bridge	G	469
Homans farmhouse	B 1,300	Newfound lake	G	590
Briar hill	est 1,200	Iron bridge at lake	B	600
Summit of road at Heath farmhouse	B 999	Sugar hill	B	945
Schoolhouse in the Locke neighborhood	B 838	Summit of Sugar Hill range	est	1,200
Nelson farmhouse	B 1,043	New Chester Mt.	B	1,103
Site of Clay farmhouse	B 914	Little Round Top	est	1,065
River at Pemigewasset bridge	G 438	Summit of old road on New Chester Mt.	B	845
Pemigewasset bridge	G 462	J. W. Sanborn house	B	735
Mouth of Newfound river	G 352	High bridge, 2-3 m. from mouth of Smith's river	est	445
Bristol station	G 369	Town line on hill road to Alexandria	B	868
Mouth of Smith's river	G 320	Gale's hill	est	1,150
Railroad bridge at Smith's river	G 327	Cross's hill	est	1,100

## CHAPTER II

### SCENERY

Lake of the Northland ! keep thy dower  
Of beauty still, and while above  
The solemn mountains speak of power,  
Be thou the mirror of God's love.

—*Whittier.*

Cultured taste admires the scenery of Bristol. Variety, the foremost charm of the scenery of the White Mountains, is here presented, inexhaustible in its resources and unlimited in its manifold combinations. Verdant hills and rock-crowned mountains ; rich pastures and smiling meadows ; tranquil streams whose waters reflect the summer sky, and rivers which tumble headlong through rocky canons ; one of the sweetest lakes that the Creator has sprinkled among the granite hills—these features combine to make the scenery of Bristol unsurpassed outside the very heart of the White Mountains.

Lakes afford one of the chief elements of beauty in any landscape ; Newfound, or Pasquaney lake, therefore, is easily the most beautiful feature of our local scenery. The “lake is very fortunate in the variety that it offers. There is no sameness to dispel the charm of one's first impression. It is a lake of long points, of mountain vistas, of romantic retreats and groves, of long sand beaches, of wooded islands, of craggy shores.” It is truly a highland lake, being almost surrounded by noble hills and mountains. On the western shore rise the precipitous ledges of Sugar Loaf, and the massive walls of Bear mountain. On the northern shore is the cragged summit of Crosby mountain, and the high, heavily wooded ridges of Tenney hill. Wade's hill rises gracefully from the East Hebron shore and culminates in the desolate summit of Plymouth mountain. The fertile slopes of the Bridgewater range, terminating in Bristol Peak, border the lake on the east, and the highest summit of the Sugar Hill range is near at hand in the southeast.

Through the gaps among these near elevations are seen many pleasing mountain pictures. From the waters near Mayhew island glance into the west and behold the glistening ledges of Cardigan over two thousand feet above you. To the left is the symmetrical summit of Forbes mountain, and the long graceful slopes of Pine mountain, while in the south are New Chester mountain, Periwig, Bartlett hill, Page and Wilson mountains,

and three peaks of Ragged mountain. The forest-crowned mass of Sanbornton mountain fills the southeastern horizon, and the thickly wooded summits of Groton tower above the peaceful intervalles of Hebron. But this is not all. From the vicinity of Crescent bay glance into the northland, and you will see, if the atmosphere is clear, the twin pyramids of Lafayette and Lincoln, the highest of the famed Franconias. Look slightly to the right, and you will see Mt. Flume, familiarly known as the Haystack. Still farther to the right a whole cluster of peaks arrests your attention: Hancock, Osceola, Tecumseh, and Fisher, in the heart of the Waterville wilderness. The forest-clad slopes of Mt. Stinson are visible from the central part of the lake over the right shoulder of Tenney hill.

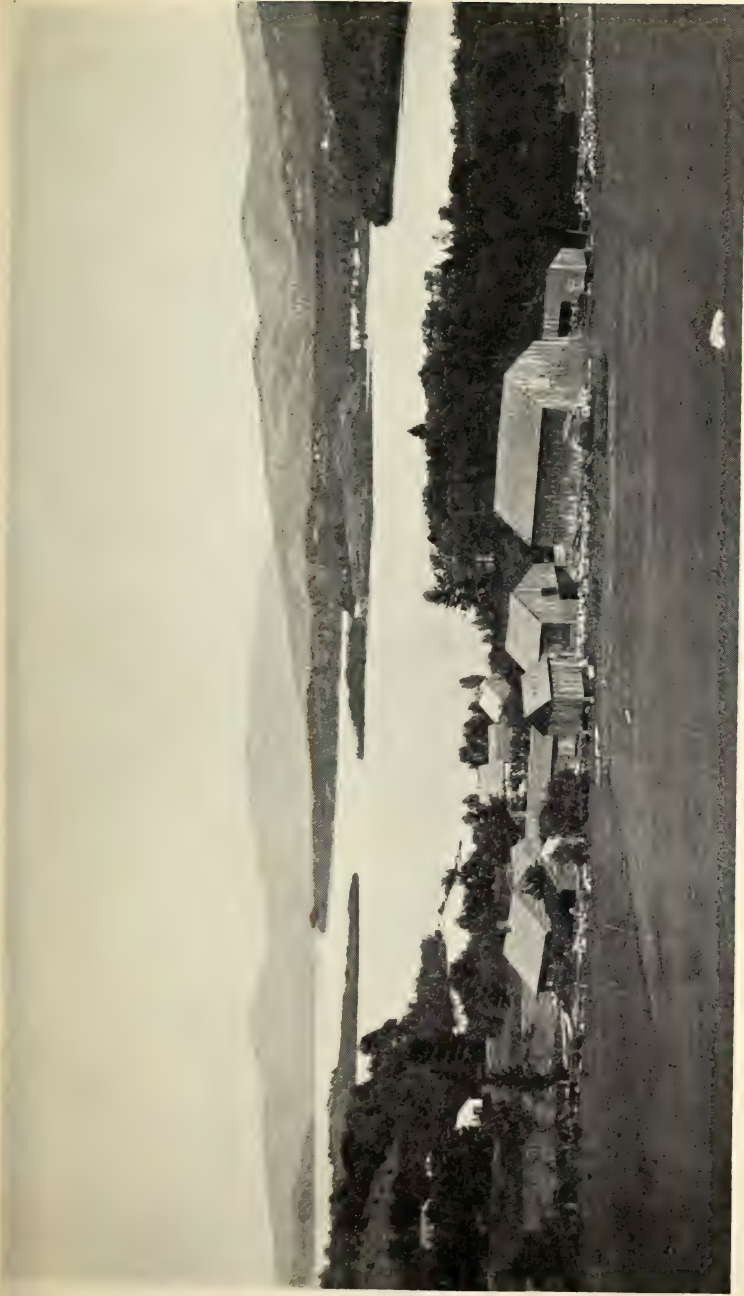
Thus is completed a list of the principal summits visible from the surface of our mountain lake, and all can be seen from that portion within the limits of our own township. They include fifteen summits which reach an altitude of two thousand feet, while several are more than twice that height. No lake in the state can excel ours in this respect, if any other of its size can equal it. To her comparatively low elevation<sup>1</sup> and her much loftier mountains, Newfound owes her charm. Listen to one of the lake's fondest admirers<sup>2</sup>: "Pasquaney surpasses Walden in its surroundings. Both are gems 'of purest ray serene,' yet Pasquaney has the most charming setting. Walden is not encircled by a chain of hills; it has no massive Alp-like Cardigan, standing with bare, storm-scarred head on its horizon; it cannot look into the blue indefinite northeast and see the twin peak like a dreamy summer cloud, the first of the distant Franconias. But Walden will ever be immortal, because Thoreau is immortal, and Pasquaney will still sleep on."

Every true lover of nature who has come into close touch with Newfound and her immediate surroundings is laden with sweet memories. In the midst of his toil, he remembers the solitary quiet he enjoyed beneath the whispering pines of Belle isle, completely cut off, as it were, from his fellow men; he remembers that romantic little voyage up the shady windings of Fowler's river; he remembers the enchanting views he obtained from the summit of Mayhew island, from Grove hill, or from Bear mountain—but the one thing which has left the most vivid picture in his mind is Sugar Loaf and the Ledge. In its total impression, Sugar Loaf is truly great and sublime. Conceive a mountain towering nearly seven hundred feet above the water, often perpendicular, crowned with ledges to its very summit, the whole great mass extending down into the lake; and add to

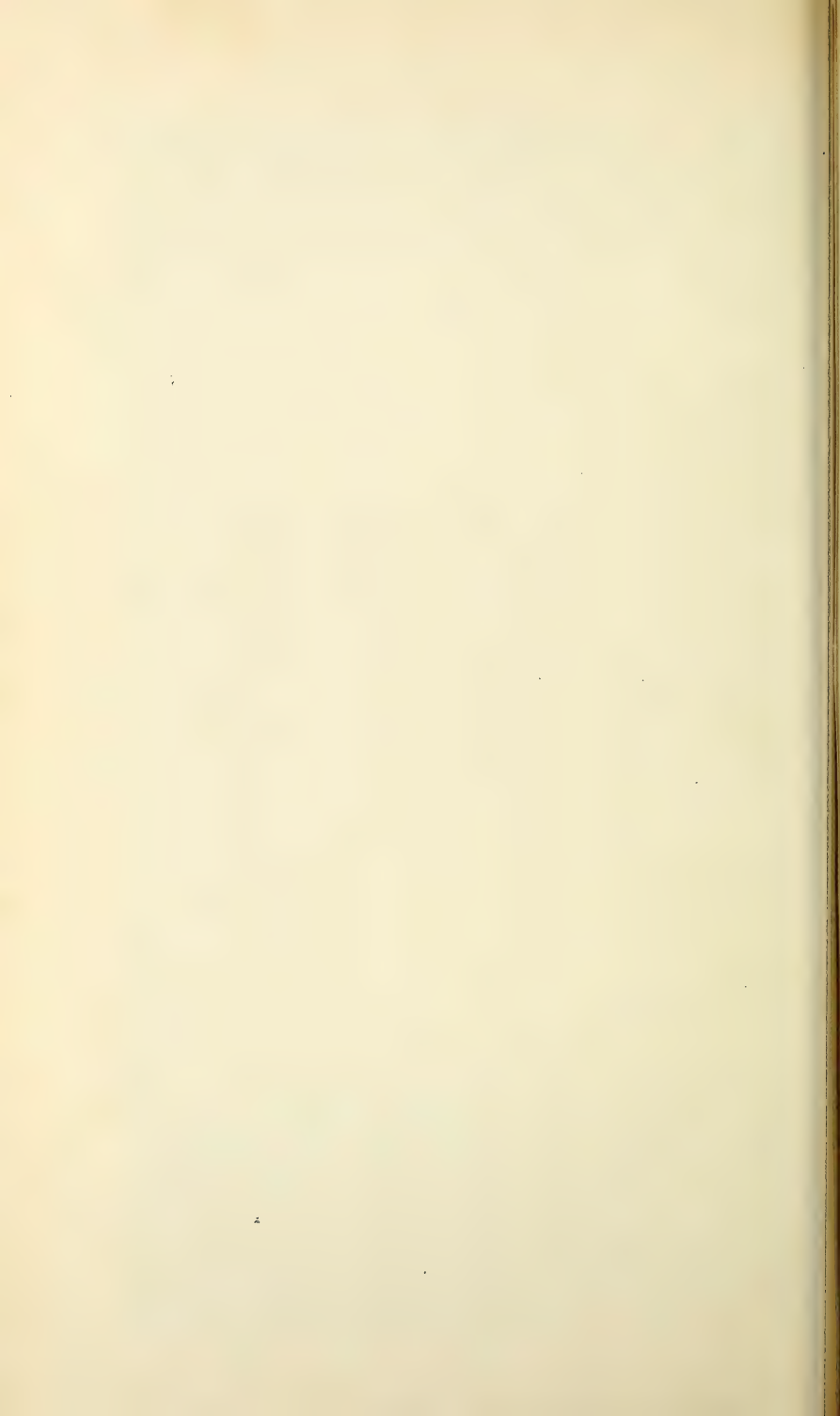
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<sup>1</sup> Lake Sunapee, at high water mark, is on an exact level with the summit of New Chester mountain.

<sup>2</sup> Fred Lewis Pattee in *Pasquaney Echoes*.



NEWFOUND LAKE FROM SLEEPER FARM





the scene a carriage road wriggling along close to the water. To stand on this narrow, winding road, when the afternoon sun throws the shadow of the mountain upon the water, is an experience one can never forget. He may glance across the bay and see Breezy point, stretching out its arm as if to salute the two beautiful islands which stand like sentinels guarding the little bay; he may look across the waters to the lofty forest-crowned hills on the farther shore, and behold, through a narrow gap, the distant Franconias—a scene of matchless beauty—but his eyes will return instinctively to the wonderful mass towering behind him. What a mighty mountain wall it is! Many of the ledges are cracked and seamed “as if the forces of decay had wound their coils fairly around them and were crumbling them at leisure”; others are carpeted with mosses that have been nourished and thickened by centuries. Here and there great boulders protrude from their neighbors, as if they had fought their way to the front, and they almost seem to hang in the air, just waiting for a touch to send them rolling and crashing into the stillness beneath. Away up on the ledges dwarfed trees

Stretch out their arms in pity to the blast,  
And clutch for life the crevice of the rock,

while decaying trees and stumps tell sadly of vain struggles for existence. The sight of such gigantic cliffs fills the eye and mind with awe, admiration, and delight. The picture is one that will fade only with the recollections and dreams of childhood.

The hills and mountains of Bristol afford, next to the lake, the most attractive natural features. The lake is known to the multitude; the mountains and hills are familiar to the few. Yet there are several summits within the limits of the township which afford splendid panoramas. The lofty summit is lacking, but herein lies the secret of the charming views. “The prospect from minor mountains is far more interesting than that from extreme elevations, where the scenery of the adjacent country is lost and confounded by the remoteness of the situation.”<sup>1</sup> Who could wish to look upon pictures more beautiful than those visible from the summit of Bristol Peak, Gale’s hill, or New Chester mountain? From each of these summits is seen wonderful vistas of mountain, lake and forest, on which the eye and mind of the true lover of nature “may linger long and profit much.”

Touched by a light that hath no name,  
A glory never sung,  
Aloft on sky and mountain-wall  
Are God’s great pictures hung.

Bristol Peak affords the most extensive view obtainable in the township. The prospect extends from Mt. Washington in

<sup>1</sup> Baron Humboldt.

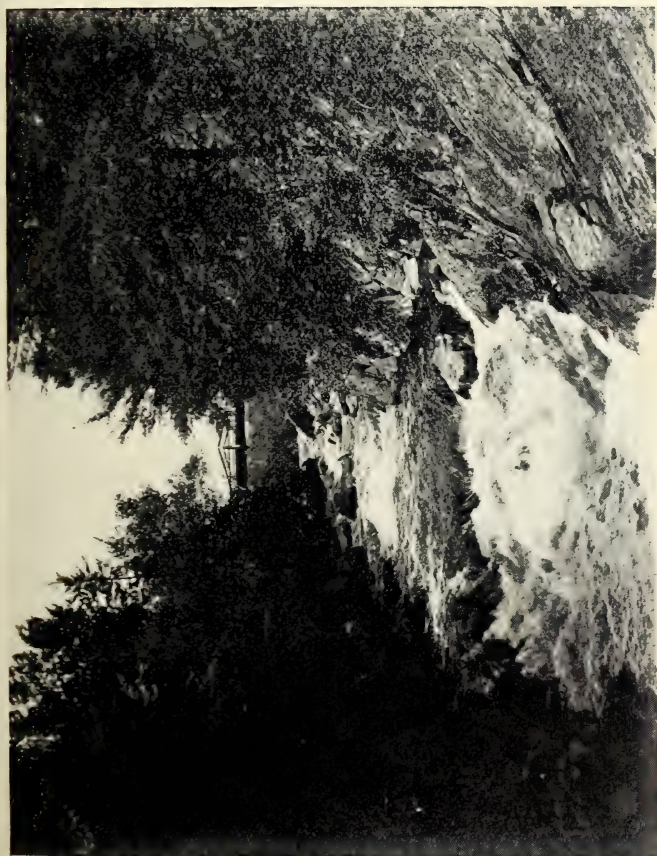
the north to Pack Monadnock in the south, and embraces the two essential elements of attractive scenery—beauty and grandeur. Newfound lake sparkles a thousand feet below, “a crystal lake in an emerald setting,” and the storm-torn sides of Cardigan glisten in the sunlight like the massive walls of an ancient fortress. The feature of the prospect is, however, the splendid Sandwich mountains, which array themselves in imposing grandeur in the northeast, with the distant dome of Mt. Washington beyond. There are Sandwich Dome, Whiteface, Wonalancet, and Paugus; Chocorua lifts his proud head apart from the others, as if he had had a quarrel, and Passaconaway peers over the right shoulder of Whiteface to see what the trouble is all about. How proud and secure those mountains are! What weight and what spirit! They are not dead matter, they live! Is it not wholesome to

Look upward to those northern mountains cold,  
And gather strength to bear a nobler part?

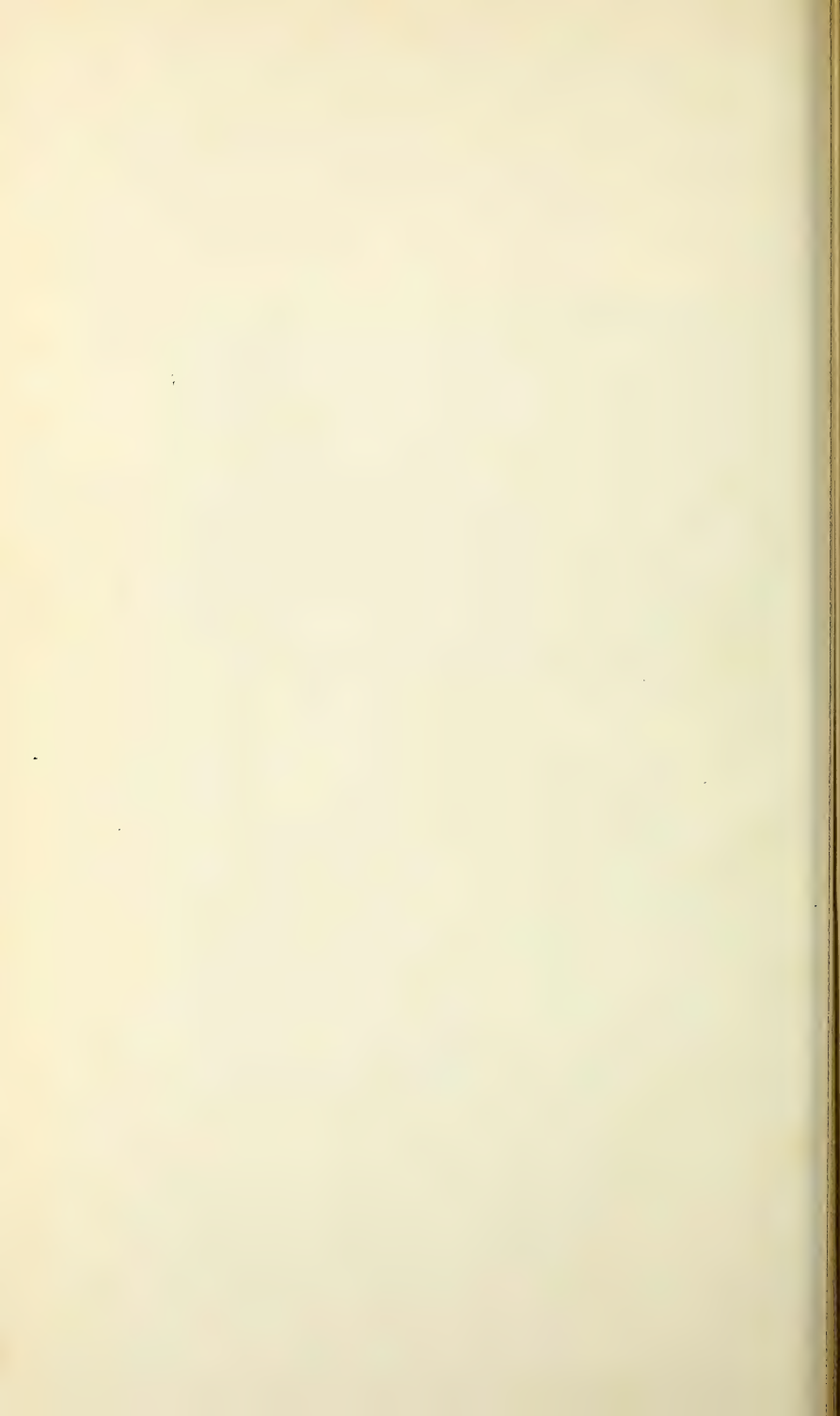
Then there is old Moosilauke in the north. How lonely and desolate he looks. His head is scarcely fanned by the breath of summer, yet he feels such storms as the valleys never know and could not bear. And there is Kearsarge in the southwest. The sweep of its sides is at once graceful and bold. The old mountain stands without a rival to fret its composure; it is indisputably the monarch of the summits in that direction. What a company of hills surrounds the noble mountain, as if the mountain had given a party and all the hills were hurrying up to answer the invitation. The far-stretching south affords a pleasing contrast, sweeping out like a vast and many-colored sea, out of which Pack Monadnock gleams like a sail dropping slowly below the horizon.

*The View:* The neighboring summit of the Bridgewater range completely shuts out the distant view to the north, but over its eastern slope is presented a mountain picture unexcelled in central New Hampshire. In the distance the majestic dome of Mt. Washington towers far above the wilderness summit of Kancamagus, which in turn rises over the Campton mountains. The imposing summits of the Sandwich range stretch away to the east. The great, lofty mass of Sandwich Dome, or Black mountain, rises just to the right of Mt. Washington, with the secondary summit of Bald Knob on its left. Flat mountain connects the Dome with Whiteface, which shows a bleached front, with Passaconaway, the highest of the range, peering over its eastern shoulder. The scraggy mass of Paugus is next, and the range culminates in the splendid spire of Chocorua. The low green cone nearly in line with Passaconaway is Wonalancet; and slightly to the left is the bold ridge of Mt. Israel. In nearly the same direction is a glimpse of Squam lake, with the Squam mountains forming a steep wall on the west. The celebrated Green hills, in Conway, are visible over the eastern slope of Chocorua.

The double-crested Red hill stands due northeast. The highest summit in the foreground nearly in line with that elevation is Beech hill, at the farther base of which is the Boston and Maine railroad near Winona. To the right, in the distance, stretches the undulating Ossipee



THE HIGH BRIDGE, SMITH'S RIVER





range, beginning with Black Snout and culminating in Mt. Shaw. Still farther to the right the island-strewn waters of Winnepesaukee smile in the sunlight. On the farther shore is Copple Crown mountain, and slightly to the right and nearer is the Belknap range. Mt. Belknap is the first summit, Mt. Gunstock the second, and the inferior summit of Gilmanton Peak is still farther to the right. The undulating hills of New Hampton occupy the immediate foreground, and Pemigewasset and Wickwas ponds (commonly called Kelley and "Nigger," respectively) lie nearly in line with the Belknap peaks.

Across the valley in the southeast is Sanbornton mountain, which towers so close at hand that a large portion of the distant view is hidden; but over its left slope are seen the Blue hills in Strafford, and several unnamed hills in Northwood and Pittsfield, while over its right slope are seen several summits in Hillsboro county—first the twin domes of the Uncanoonucs in Goffstown, followed by the long whaleback of Joe English hill in New Boston, Crotched mountain in Franconia, and the Pack Monadnock range in Peterboro and Temple. The distant view is again cut off by the splendid pyramid of Kearsarge, which towers majestically beyond Bristol village, and renders insignificant the summits of Periwig, New Chester mountain, Bartlett hill, and Page, Wilson, and Ragged mountains, which occupy the foreground in the order named. To the right of Ragged mountain, in the distance, is the serrated Sunapee, and next in order is Pinnacle mountain in Wilmot, the low hills of Danbury, and Melvin hill in Springfield. The western horizon is occupied by the long slopes of Pine mountain, the symmetrical summit of Forbes, and the massive and lofty peaks of Cardigan.<sup>1</sup>

Newfound lake now arrests the attention. To the left of the ridge which Bristol Peak throws off to the west can be seen the foot of the lake with its little hamlet of boathouses, while to the right can be seen the whole expanse north of Mayhew island. On the farther side, rising above the little bay and islands, is the ledge-crowned Sugar Loaf, with Bear mountain just behind, and on the northern shore are Crosby mountain and Tenney hill. Spectacle pond in Groton is visible over the western slope of Crosby. To the right of Tenney hill is Wade's hill, swelling into the high summit of Plymouth mountain. Smart's mountain, in Dorchester and Lyme, towers far above the wooded summits of Groton, and a little farther to the right is the symmetrical summit of Mt. Cube in Orford. Over the western spur of Plymouth mountain rises the splendid mass of Mt. Carr, and over the eastern slope is the forest-covered Mt. Stinson. In the distance, overtopping all, is the majestic Moosilauke, with its crowning hotel distinguishable with the naked eye.

Mountains and lakes are not, however, the only objects visible from Bristol Peak. Villages, marked usually by church spires, are scattered here and there through the valleys. Nearly in line with Sandwich Dome the thriving village of Ashland is seen among the hills. Due east from the point of vision lies the classic village of New Hampton, with its white church spire and institution buildings conspicuous; and far beyond, in nearly the same line, is the small hamlet of Meredith Center. At the head of Newfound lake a white spire marks the location of Hebron, and due west, at the very foothills of Cardigan, is Alexandria village. Finally, in the southwest, nestling in the valley, with a solid background

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<sup>1</sup> Cardigan has two prominent summits, Baldface and Firescrew, and one inferior summit, Crane. Baldface is the highest peak, and is named from its marked physical characteristic. The northern peak received its name in 1855, when the mountain was swept by a conflagration. As the flames curled about the tall trees on the sky line of the summit, a beholder remarked that they looked like "screws of fire"; hence the name. Crane is the inferior summit south of Baldface.



of hills and mountains, is our own Bristol village, with the Congregational church steeple prominent.

New Chester mountain affords a view of considerable extent and beauty. Sanbornton mountain, with its almost illimitable forests of pine, towers close at hand in the east. What a tremendous mass it is! So solid, yet soaring, it seems to lift itself to that glorious height. The outlook down the Pemigewasset valley is one of extreme magnificence. The river, fringed by fertile meadows, flows on and loses itself among the fading lines of many nameless hills. In the west the densely wooded slopes of Pine mountain ripple off into the fertile fields.

*The View:* The Pemigewasset valley, with its winding river, stretches away to the south toward the twin Uncanoonucs, which are visible against the horizon. Hill village, with its two church spires, is visible in the valley about four miles away. To the left are the hills of Northfield and Franklin, and far beyond are two faint summits in Epsom, Fort and McKoy's mountains. In the immediate foreground are the three precipitous peaks of Periwig, and to the left are unnamed summits between Hill and Andover, and the hills of Boscawen and Concord. Between New Chester mountain and Periwig flows Smith's river, though it is seen only near its junction with the Pemigewasset farther east and at several points in the valley towards the Danbury hills.

To the right of Periwig are Bartlett hill, and Page and Wilson mountains, the last two <sup>1</sup> overtopping everything else in that direction. Kearsarge lifts its head over the left slope of Page mountain, and two summits of Ragged mountain are seen to the right of Wilson. Next appear the hills of Wilmot, Danbury, and Melvin hill. Pine mountain occupies a great part of the western horizon, and to the right are the symmetrical summit of Forbes mountain and the two splendid peaks of Cardigan, the monarch of central New Hampshire.

A seeming extension of Cardigan terminates abruptly in the notched summit of Bear mountain, with the round mass of Sugar Loaf at its base. Burns's and Gale's hills occupy the foreground in nearly the same line of vision. Over the right slope of Bear mountain are the high hills of Groton, and next in order are Crosby mountain and Tenney hill in Hebron. Over the left shoulder of the latter is seen a spur of Mt. Carr, and to the right is the distant summit of Moosilauke, its crowning hotel being easily seen. Farther to the right are the long ridge of Mt. Stinson, Plymouth mountain, with Wade's hill, its secondary summit, and the long Bridgewater range. Through the gap between Bridgewater Peak and Plymouth mountain are seen a group of mountains in the East Branch country—first the south peak of the Twin mountains; then the two pyramids of Guyot and Bond, which rise above Scar Ridge, in Livermore. Scar Ridge extends westward into the inferior summit of Black mountain, which appears in the foreground just to the left of Twin.

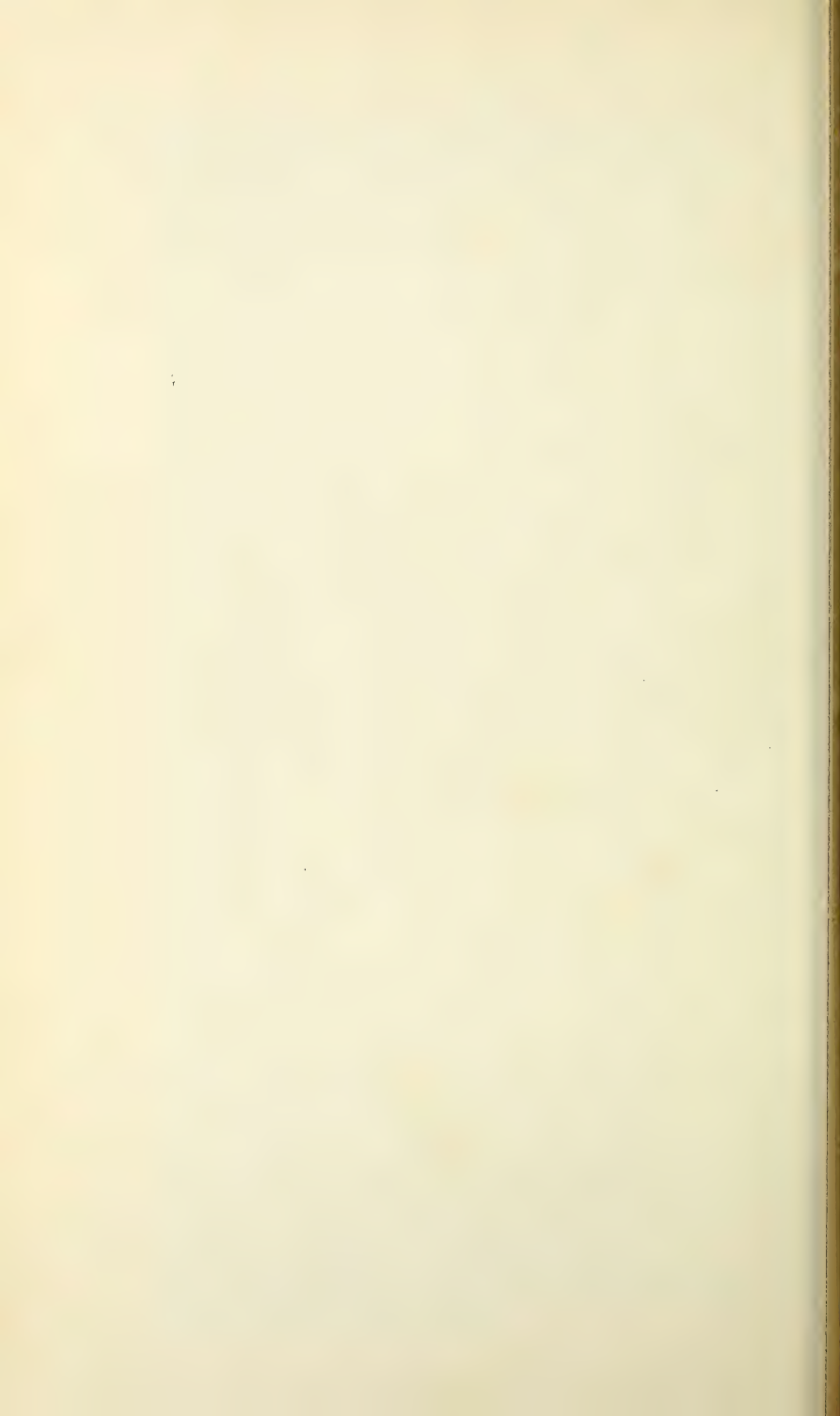
Three summits of the Sandwich range are seen through the first gap to the right of Bristol Peak—Whiteface in the center, with Flat mountain at its left and Passaconaway just visible over its eastern shoulder. Briar hill in the foreground is next in order, and then comes the colossal spire of "Chocorua, the sharpest summit east of the Rockies." The Green hills of Conway are visible to the right of Chocorua. The New Hampton

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<sup>1</sup> These two summits are commonly called Murray hill. Strictly speaking, Murray hill is merely a terrace on the northern slopes of these summits which is traversed by a road about 1,200 feet in height. Dickerson hill is the name of the next terrace above, its average elevation being about 1,400 feet.



VIEW FROM SUGAR HILL



hills occupy the foreground, reaching their highest summit in Burleigh mountain, and beyond stretches the undulating Ossipee range, with Black Snout at its left extremity and Mt. Shaw at its right. One of the summits of Red hill is visible about midway between Black Snout and Chocorua. Burleigh mountain swells into the splendid Sanbornton mountain, which hides the distant view in that direction. In the immediate foreground, nearly in line with Sanbornton, is Little Round Top, and in line with Mt. Stinson is the low and precipitous Sugar hill, with the thriving village of Bristol at its feet. A portion of Newfound lake is visible just beyond.

Gale's hill affords a view which, in some respects, is superior to that from Bristol Peak. The prospect is less extensive, but it is remarkable for its peaceful beauty. In the northeast are seen several of the Waterville summits—Fisher, Osceola, and Tecumseh—with the distant dome of Mt. Washington beyond; but the near prospect is more pleasing. The view of Newfound lake is the most beautiful obtainable from any of the Bristol summits. The perspective is fortunate, the mountain-walls of the lake appearing to great advantage. Sugar Loaf, into whose granite hardness the torrents and rock-slides have torn deep dikes, rises precipitously from the water's edge, and the mighty cliffs of Bear mountain tower just behind as if in protection. At their feet lies the peaceful lake, with promontories and islands in full view, the crystal waves extending to the very slopes of Crosby mountain and Tenney hill, which are overtopped by the majestic mass of Mt. Carr. Gale's hill affords also the finest view of Cardigan, whose splendid granite peaks leap a thousand feet above the primeval forests, forming an effective contrast with the elm-sprinkled meadows in the foreground. The scene imparts an Arcadian air to the smiling meadows with their scattered farmhouses, and its sweet pastoral beauty quiets the most restless nature.

Sugar hill affords the most striking view of Bristol village to be found in the township; and the whole outlook, although limited, is one of beauty. The mighty Moosilauke is visible in the distant north, and in the west gleams the massive front of Cardigan. The slopes of New Chester mountain contain dream-like bits of pastoral gentleness, while in the south is seen a portion of the Pemigewasset river, whose "mountain-born brightness glances down to the sea." The natural attractions escape, however, the attention of the majority of those who ascend the steep slopes of Sugar hill. Most persons see only the throbbing village in the deep valley, a picture which furnishes a marked contrast with the wholesome quiet of the surrounding hills.

Burns's hill affords a pleasing view. Bristol village nestles in the deep valley with the dark and sombre forests of Sanbornton mountain forming a striking background. The view to the north includes a portion of Newfound lake, and the mountains



appear in the same relative positions as when viewed from Gale's hill. Mt. Gunstock is visible in the distance just to the left of Sanbornton mountain, a portion of the Ossipee range is seen over the eastern foothills of Bristol Peak, and the splendid peaks of Cardigan are visible in the west. While the view from Burns hill is pleasing, the principal attraction of the eminence lies not in the view afforded of other summits, but in the impressive peacefulness of its own. Here, in the cool shade of perfumed locust trees, sleep the dead of by-gone generations—here is the Burns' burying-ground. This ancient cemetery is situated at an altitude of eleven hundred feet—

Yet in this northern land  
Amid these mountains grand,  
I know no spot more beautiful, more bright;  
No spot more fit to keep  
The dead in their long sleep  
'Till Resurrection morn shall banish night.<sup>1</sup>

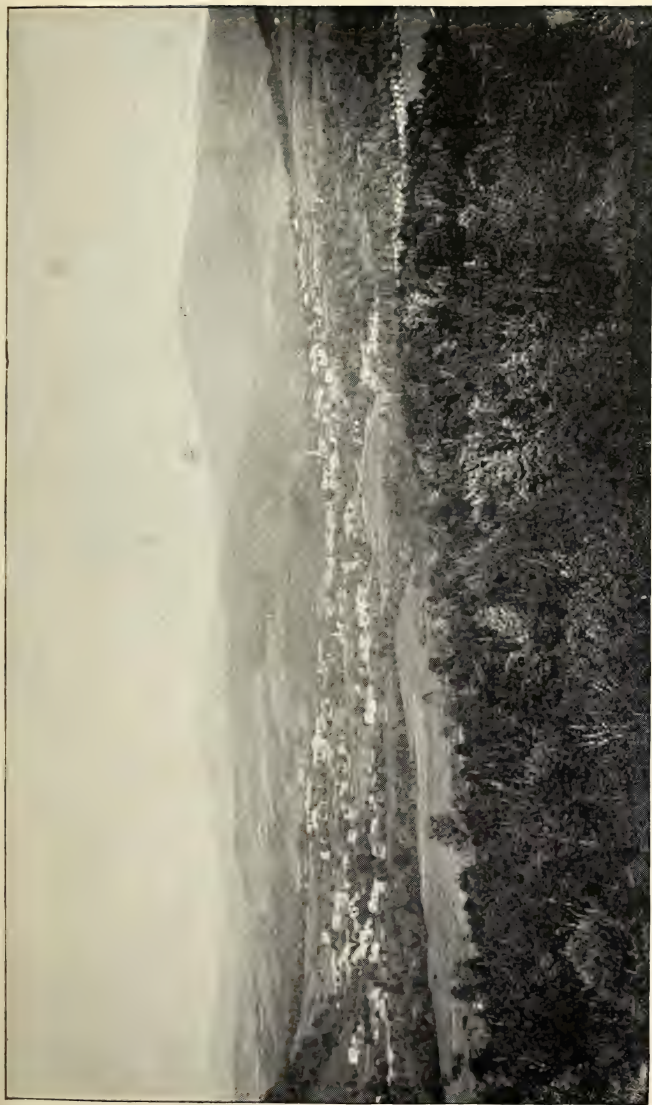
Cross's hill affords a pleasing view of Newfound valley and Bristol village, and a favorable prospect of the Sugar hill range. The mountain view to the north is similar to that from Gale's hill. Until a few years ago this summit afforded an extensive view of Newfound lake, but the foliage now excludes a great part of the prospect.

Every county in New Hampshire, except Cheshire, can be seen from Bristol territory. Of the mountains visible, which lie beyond the limits of the town, we append a list of those which reach an altitude of 2,000 feet, and a few neighboring summits of less than 2,000 feet, with their distance from Bristol village and their location. In the list of altitudes, A signifies measurements by the Appalachian club; C, by the United States coast survey; H, by Prof. C. H. Hitchcock, of the recent state geological survey; J, by Dr. C. T. Jackson, of the early state geological survey; G, by Prof. Arnold Guyot, of Princeton; and B, barometrical.

NAME		ALTITUDE	DISTANCE	LOCATION
Bald Head	B	2,200	14	Groton
Bald Knob	C	2,391	25	Sandwich
Bear	B	1,846	6	Hebron
Beech hill	H	1,300	10	New Hampton
Belknap	J	2,052	18	Gilford
Black	B	2,900	34	Livermore
Black Snout	H J	2,361	24	Tamworth
Bond	H	4,800	43	Livermore
Bridgewater Peak	H	1,700	4	Bridgewater
Burleigh	H	1,700	3	New Hampton
Campton	H	2,879	22	Campton
Cannon (or Profile)	G H	3,850	39	Franconia
Cardigan :				
Baldface	C	3,156	10	Orange
Firescrew	B	3,060	10	Orange

<sup>1</sup> Fred Lewis Pattee.





VIEW FROM BURNS'S HILL  
(Sanbornton Mountain in the distance)



## SCENERY

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NAME		ALTITUDE	DISTANCE	LOCATION
Carr	G H	3,522	22	Warren
Carrigain	G H	4,678	37	Livermore
Chocorua	G H	3,540	33	Albany
Clement's hill	H	1,300	6	Bridgewater
Copple Crown	H	2,100	33	Brookfield
Crosby	B	1,600	9	Hebron
Crotched	C	2,066	42	Francestown
Cube	C	2,927	27	Orford
Eagle Cliff	H	3,446	40	Franconia
Fisher	C	3,470	26	Waterville
Flat	B	2,700	27	Sandwich
Flume	A	4,340	36	Lincoln
Forbes	B	2,200	8	Orange
Green hills	H	2,390	46	Conway
Gunstock	C A	2,394	18	Gilford
Guyot	A	4,589	43	Livermore
Hancock	H A	4,420	37	Livermore
Israel	H	2,880	22	Sandwich
Kancamagus	A	3,774	33	Livermore
Kearsarge	H	2,943	16	Warner
Kimball hill	B	2,200	13	Groton
Kinsman (Blue)	G H A	4,370	36	Lincoln
Lafayette	C	5,259	39	Franconia
Lincoln	H G	5,101	39	Franconia
Lovell	C	2,487	32	Washington
Melvin hill	C	2,134	14	Springfield
Moosilauke	C A	4,811	32	Benton
Osceola	H G	4,400	32	Livermore
Pack Monadnock	C	2,289	53	Peterboro
Passaconaway	H	4,200	32	Waterville
Paugus	A	3,248	32	Albany
Pine	B	2,100	5	Alexandria
Pinnacle hill	H	1,500	5	New Hampton
Plymouth	H	1,900	8	Plymouth
Ragged	C	2,256	9	Wilnot
Red hill (n. pk.)	C H	2,038	19	Moultonboro
Sanbornton	H	2,300	2	Sanbornton
Sandwich Dome (or Black)	H	3,999	25	Sandwich
Scar Ridge	A	3,816	33	Livermore
Shaw	C	2,956	24	Moultonboro
Smart's	H	2,500	21	Lyme
Squam (Morgan)	H	2,162	17	Campton
Stinson	C H	2,707	18	Rumney
Sunapee	C	2,683	26	Newbury
Tecumseh	A	4,008	27	Waterville
Tenney hill	B	1,900	9	Hebron
Twin (s. pk.)	H A	4,922	44	Franconia
Wade's hill	H	1,650	8	Hebron
Washington	C H	6,293	52	unincorporated
Welch	H	3,500	26	Thornton
Whiteface	C	4,007	30	Albany
Wonalancet	B	2,000	31	Albany

## CHAPTER III

### THE ABORIGINES AND THE FIRST WHITE MEN WHO VISITED THIS SECTION

'Tis good to muse on nations passed away  
Forever from the land we call our own.

—*Eastburn.*

Previous to the settlement of New Hampshire by the English the Indians roamed at will over every portion of the state. Their homes or wigwams were chiefly along the rivers and on the shores of the lakes. The Indians were not, however, so numerous that they did not find ample ground for the planting of corn, pumpkins, and beans, and such other products of the soil as they cultivated, in close proximity to the fishing afforded by the waters of the state.

That the Indians were as numerous within the limits of the old town of New Chester as in the state at large there are many reasons to believe. Indian arrow-heads, spear-heads, stone axes, gouges, pestles, and other stone implements and weapons, have been found on the shores of Newfound lake and on the borders of Newfound, Smith's, and Pemigewasset rivers. On the east side of the last named stream, near the old Moses Favor house, is an Indian burying-ground. Numerous fireplaces are still found, indicating the permanent abiding places of these people at least for one winter. These fireplaces are shown by stones protruding from the ground in a circle four or five feet in diameter. The accumulated earth being removed from within this circle, flat rocks are invariably found on which are ashes and charcoal made by the fires of the Indian wigwam more than one hundred and fifty years ago. The author has opened several of these fireplaces in this vicinity, always near some body of water, and gathered charcoal therefrom. On the west shore of the lake he discovered, in 1901, a veritable workshop, where, perhaps for many years, Indian squaws made stone and flint arrow-heads and other implements. Here within a space of one square rod he found several hundred flint chips and imperfect and broken arrow-heads, evidently spoiled in the making, and fragments of pottery. All these things attest the large number of Indians that once made their homes in this vicinity.



The Indians of New Hampshire were a part of the great Algonquin race. Those in the interior of the state were called Nipmucks, meaning fresh water Indians, in distinction from those who lived on the seacoast. The Nipmucks were divided into numerous tribes that took their names from the locality in which they lived. Thus the Indians of the Pemigewasset valley were called the Pemigewassets; other tribes were called the Pennacooks, the Amoskeags, the Nashuas, the Squamscotts, the Ossipees, the Winnepissaukies, and the Winnecowetts. The early settlers regarded all the Indians of New Hampshire as the Pennacooks. Chandler E. Potter, in his admirable *History of Manchester*, accounts for this from the fact that Passaconaway, the chief of the Pennacooks, was a man of great power and virtually held all the tribes of the state under his sway. Passaconaway was at the height of his power when New England was first settled, and the tribes from the northern part of Massachusetts to the source of the Connecticut river were completely subservient to his will. It was Passaconaway who sold to Rev. John Wheelright the tract of land extending from the Piscataqua river to the Merrimack, and from the Massachusetts line thirty miles north. This deed was signed May 17, 1629, by him and three chiefs of his subordinate tribes. Passaconaway's rule extended to the time of his death, which occurred shortly prior to 1669. He was succeeded by Wonalancet, one of his four sons, who continued the sway of his father till 1685. Wonalancet was succeeded by Kancamagus, son of Nanamocomuch and grandson of Passaconaway.

From the time of the earliest settlements on the coast, wars between the white men and the Indians were frequent. For wrongs at the hands of the white men, the Indians slaughtered men, women, and children, and marked their paths with the blackened ruins of the homes of the settlers. In turn the whites made incursions into the Indian country and, with torch and bullet, reduced their numbers and drove them from the homes and the lands of their fathers.

The first whites to visit this section were, doubtless, the captives of Indians. The Pemigewasset river was the natural highway for the Indians in their intercourse between the northern part of the state and the coast. One trail extended through the Franconia Notch to Plymouth; another from the Cohos country up the Oliverian and down Baker's river to Plymouth, where the two united. From there south the journey was made chiefly by canoes as far as the head of Fellows's falls in Bristol, where commenced the "long carrying place." At that point boats were taken from the river and carried to the foot of Bristol falls. The carry did not follow the long bend in the river between these points, but took a direct course from the head of the falls to the Blake brook, east of White's hill in New

Hampton, thence down the valley of the brook to its mouth at the Pemigewasset river, where the canoes were again launched. This carry was known as the "long carrying place," because it was the longest on the river. The Bristol side of the river, opposite the mouth of Blake's brook, is the scene of a once favorite camping place for both the whites and Indians. From this point south, the Indian route followed the river.

After settlements had been made in Massachusetts and the southern part of New Hampshire, many a war party passed southward over this route, wreaked its vengeance upon the whites, and returned with women and children, and sometimes men, as captives. It was over this route that the captors of Hannah Dustin were traveling in 1697; and, but for her heroism in despatching her captors on the island at the mouth of the Contoocook river, she would doubtless have passed the following night at the foot of the "long carrying place."

During Queen Anne's war, 1703-12, Massachusetts offered a bounty of forty pounds for each Indian scalp secured. This large bounty stimulated many expeditions against the Indians in the wilderness. Col. Tyng, of Chelmsford, Mass., in the winter of 1703-4, went with a company of rangers on snowshoes to the "headquarters of the Indians among the mountains of New Hampshire," securing five scalps. Col. Winthrop Hilton, with five companies, went to the head of the Pemigewasset valley; after him went Capt. Wright, Col. Walton, and many others. One party surprised and killed eight Indians without the loss of a man. It is probable that several of these expeditions passed over Bristol soil and encamped at the foot of the "long carrying place."

The first military expedition, of which we have positive knowledge as having pressed Bristol soil, was that of Capt. Thomas Baker. In 1709, Capt. Baker, as a captive, had passed up the Connecticut river from his home in Northampton, Mass., to Canada. After his liberation he organized, in 1712, a company for operations against the Indians. With thirty-four men and a friendly Indian as guide he scouted up the Connecticut as far as Haverhill. Thence he proceeded up the Oliverian brook and down the Asquamchumauke, now called Baker's river, to Plymouth. At the mouth of the last named stream he discovered an Indian encampment, and immediately made an attack. Many of the Indians were killed, and the survivors dispersed. Capt. Baker's party then searched for plunder, and found a large quantity of beaver skins in holes which the Indians had made in a bank. Each man took as many of these as he could carry, and the party at once commenced a march homeward down the valley of the Pemigewasset. While this was going on the Indians were calling in their hunters and preparing for pursuit. When Capt. Baker had reached a "poplar plain,"

just south of where now stand the farmhouses on the Walter R. Webster farm in Bridgewater, the Indians, under the leadership of Watnommee, chief of the Pemigewassets, overtook him, and a fight promptly ensued. It is said that Capt. Baker and the chief each fired at the other at the same moment. The bullet from Watnommee's musket grazed the cheek of Capt. Baker as the Indian chief fell dead. The Indians were repulsed, but, fearing a renewal of the conflict with still larger numbers, Capt. Baker and his men made a forced march down the stream till they reached the foot of the "long carrying place." Having crossed the Pemigewasset, they rested on Bristol soil, the men declaring they could go no farther. Here the sagacity of the Indian guide was seen. He directed that every man make several fires and that each use two or three forked sticks in broiling his pork, and leave them beside the fires, as the Indians would count the sticks to ascertain the number in the party. This was done, and the Indians, concluding the party too large for them to attack, gave up the pursuit. For their services in this expedition, Capt. Baker and his men were rewarded by the Massachusetts legislature.

This Indian chief, Watnommee, was first mentioned in English history in connection with the massacre at Andover, Mass., in 1689, when five persons were killed. He was present with thirty or forty of the Pemigewassets, and saved the lives of a family who were his friends. He was also present the same year at the fearful slaughter at Cocheco, when fifty-two persons were killed or captured and six houses destroyed; but the part he took in this massacre is not known. He was an active participant in the scenes of Queen Anne's war.

In 1724, Capt. John Lovewell was authorized by the Massachusetts legislature to raise a company of men to "range and keep out in the woods in order to kill and destroy the enemy Indians." He was to receive a bounty of one hundred pounds for each scalp secured. With thirty men, he went up the Pemigewasset valley. In Campton they surprised a man and a boy in a wigwam. They killed the man and took his scalp, but carried the boy to Boston as a captive. In January, 1725, Capt. Lovewell marched over the same ground again with a larger party. At the mouth of Squam river they turned aside to "Casumpe pond," where they killed a black moose. Here, too, they struck the trail of a party of ten Indians. They hastily pursued and overtook the savages, whom they found sleeping at night in a camp near a frozen pond in what is now Wakefield. They killed every man, took their scalps, stretched them on poles and carried them in triumph to Boston, and were paid \$5,000 for their valor. Capt. Lovewell met his death only a few months later in a fight with the savages at Fryeburg, Me., when he and twelve of his men were killed and twenty-two wounded.



Capt. Eleazer Tyng ascended the Merrimack river in April, 1725, transporting his provisions by canoes. It is said that he "carried by" the rapids at Franklin and "toted" round the "Sawhegenit falls," as he called the falls at Bristol. This would indicate that he "toted" over the "long carrying place." Farther up the stream he sent a scout up the "Sowheig" river to its source in the "Casumpe" pond. He went as far as North Woodstock, but found no Indians. The same season Capt. Samuel Willard scouted through this section to the "source of the Merrimack in the great Pemigewasset woods."

In 1725, Capt. John White visited Bristol territory. He started Apr. 5, from his home in Lancaster, Mass., for a scout in the North country. The following is his Journal complete:

CAPT. WHITE'S JOURNAL, MAY, 1725

A true journal of my travels began the  
5th of April 1725 We traveled to Groton 12 milds and there stayed  
by reason of foul wether

6 day We travelled to dunstable<sup>1</sup> and there lay that night

7 day we lay stil by reason of foul wether

8 day we mustered and went over the river to the house of John  
Talars about 3 milds

9 day we marched up the river about 8 milds and then campt one of  
our men being taken very sick for he could travel no farther his name  
was Thomas Simson and doctor Joseph Whetcomb that night set his fut  
into a ketel of biling broth that so he could travel no farther

10 day was foul wether & we sent 2 men into dunstable with the  
sick and lame men and returned that night to us again

11 day we travelled about 13 milds & then Campt, about 3 milds  
above Amuskeag falls.<sup>2</sup>

12 day we travelled 11 milds and then Campt at the mouth of Pene-  
cook river<sup>3</sup>

13 day we travelled 7 milds and then Campt at the irish fort in Pene-  
cook Entrevals,<sup>4</sup> that day it rayned very hard all day

14 day we travelled 10 milds and then crost Meremock River above  
the mouth of Contockock river and then Campt

15 day we traveled 8 milds north west from Contockock to a little  
streame that runs into Meremock River about 3 milds westward from  
Meremock and then Campt and sent out Skouts

16 day we travelled 12 milds and came to a pond which was very  
long and we turned to the East sid of it and then Campt and sent out skouts  
That day we lay about 8 milds westward of the mouth of Winepisseocket

17 day it rained very hard the fore part of the day and a little before  
night it cleared up and sent skouts but found nothing.

18 day we travelled 14 milds and that day we crost two great  
streams<sup>5</sup> that runs into Meremock one of them comes out of a great  
pond<sup>6</sup> which some indens say it is 3 days journey round it The land is  
very full of great hils and mountains and very rocky Abundance of  
sprus and hemlock and far and some brch and mapols and we Campt<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Nashua.

<sup>2</sup> Scouts speak of a cold spring three miles above Amoskeag falls  
where they were accustomed to camp.

<sup>3</sup> Suncook river.

<sup>4</sup> Concord.

<sup>5</sup> Smith's and Newfound rivers.

<sup>6</sup> Newfound lake.

<sup>7</sup> This party crossed Newfound river and followed the west bank of  
the Pemigewasset.



19 day we travelled 11 milds and then Camp<sup>t</sup> at the lower end of pemichewasset lower entrevals and sent out skouts

20 day we lay stil by reason of foul wether and towards nit it cleared up and we sent out skouts and we found where Cornel Tyng crost the Meremock

21 day we travelled 12 milds up pemichewashet River<sup>1</sup> and found old sins of Indans and we sent out skouts that night and found one new track<sup>2</sup> and we lay that night by the river and made new Camps. The land that lyes by this river is very rich and good. The uplands were full of hills and mountains very bad travelling

22 day we traveled 2 milds and then sent out skouts over the river and up a stream<sup>3</sup> that runs into the river but found nothen

23 day we traveled up the river about 14 milds and that day we crost 3 stremes<sup>4</sup> that rune into the river this river comes steeply from the north west and then we camp<sup>t</sup>

24 day we traveled 10 milds westward and that day we found old signs of Indens<sup>5</sup> where they had been this Spring and in the Winter and sent out skouts but cold find no Indens. This day Sam<sup>ll</sup> moosman accidently kild himself with his own gun<sup>6</sup>

25 day it rained very hard and we lay still that day till a most night it cleared up and we sent out skouts but found northin

26 day we traveled 18 milds and came upon Conetecut river one of our men was taken vere sick that night we camp<sup>t</sup> by the river

27 day we traveled down the river and found a bark cannow which was a great Service to our sick man and to us that day We traveled about 18 milds and then Camp<sup>t</sup>

28 day we traveled 19 milds and then camp<sup>t</sup>. This river runs cheafly upon a south westerly pint. this day we crost serval litel streams that runs into Coneticut river

29 day we traveled 20 milds and then Camp<sup>t</sup>

30 day we traveled 17 milds and crost one litel river<sup>7</sup> below the great falls<sup>8</sup> and then Camp<sup>t</sup>

May the first. we traveled 24 milds and came to the fort above Northfield and there lay all night

2 day we traveled 10 milds and came to Northfield and there staid that night

3 day we lay still it lookt very likely for foul wether and we lay there that night

4 day we set out for Lancaster across the woods and traveled about 12 milds and then Camp<sup>t</sup>

5 day we traveled 15 milds and then camp<sup>t</sup>

6 day we traveled 14 milds and came into Lancaster about 4 o'clock This day it rained very hard all day

Capt. John Goffe, of Amoskeag, was a great Indian hunter. In January, 1746, with a company of men he scouted for Indians and passed several months in the woods of the Pemigewasset valley and adjacent territory. In May of the same year, after

<sup>1</sup> Now called Baker river; other names of this river given by early travelers were "The west branch of the Merrimack river," "Remitthewasset," "Pemogewasset west branch" "Hastings Brook," and "Asquamchumauke."

<sup>2</sup> This was in Rumney.

<sup>3</sup> Stinson Brook.

<sup>4</sup> Hall Brook, South Branch and Pond Brook.

<sup>5</sup> In Warren or the north part of Wentworth.

<sup>6</sup> The place of the accident must have been in Warren, for the west line of that town is less than ten miles from the Connecticut river.

<sup>7</sup> Cold river.

<sup>8</sup> Bellows Falls.

two men had been killed at Contoocook, he started with fifty men "to visit the Pemagewasset, Winipesseokee and the Great Camping Places in the adjacent Country." The next April the Indians carried off seven persons from Hopkinton; and again Capt. Goffe was off at the head of a party for the woods of the north country, hoping to intercept the savages.

The large returns from hunting and trapping induced many of the young men in the spring of the year to visit localities far from the settlements, notwithstanding the great danger from Indians. In the spring of 1752, John Stark, afterward general; his brother, William, from Derrytown, now Manchester; Amos Eastman, of Penacook; and David Stinson, of Londonderry, were hunting in Rumney. They had collected furs to the value of five hundred and fifty pounds, when they discovered that Indians were near, and at once commenced to take up their traps. While thus engaged the Indians killed Stinson. John Stark and Eastman were carried captives to Canada, and William Stark escaped by flight to Boscawen. A party from Boscawen at once proceeded to Rumney, where the body of Stinson was found, stripped, and scalped. John Stark and Eastman returned a few months later, giving a glowing account of the country they had seen in the upper portion of the state.

In 1751 and '52, steps were taken looking to the settlement of what is now Haverhill and the west bank of the Connecticut, opposite. The plan was to establish here two strong forts and to enlist for each, 200 men who should become settlers as well as soldiers, and thus prevent the incursions of the Indians from the north by this route. Two roads were to be opened from the south, one along the Connecticut river and the other up the valley of the Merrimack. A committee to survey the last named route consisted of Zaccheus Lovewell, of Dunstable, Maj. John Tolford of Chester, and Caleb Page, of Starktown. They had a party of sixteen men. Half of these carried muskets; the other half were ax men, cooks, and common laborers. Each man was provided with snowshoes, and a blanket, and provisions were taken for twenty-five days. It was decided to "pursue the track of the Indians as they come down the great valley to Baker's river and the Pemigewasset and return again with their prisoners." The party left Concord March 10, 1753. John Stark, who had passed through this country the year before as a prisoner, was guide. The snow was then three feet deep, but they pressed on undaunted. The cooks and assistants pressed forward in the morning to the next night's camping ground, prepared camp and had fires and food ready for the surveying party when it had completed its day's work. This party, like many of the others named, evidently passed through Bristol. When they reached what is now Wentworth they killed a moose. In fifteen days they blazed a path to the Coos meadows at

Haverhill. They occupied six days in returning; and the party was disbanded at Amoskeag March 31.

This committee reported that they had "been upon the spot and searched out a convenient way where a road might be cut & Bridged without any uncommon charge or Difficulty, commencing at the Crotch of Merrimack river, where the rivers of Pemigewasset & Winnipiseocce meet & Ending about Ten miles below the head of S'd Tract of Land, called Co:os." One account says that this party went up the west side of the Pemigewasset, avoiding the "long carrying place"; and if so they must have passed through what is now Bristol village.

The Indians had divined the purpose of the white men to occupy the Coos country; and a delegation appeared at Charlestown and threatened war so loudly that the project was abandoned. No settlement, therefore, was made at Haverhill till the power of the French and Indians was destroyed by the conquest of Canada in 1760, and forts were no longer needed at this point.

The Major Tolford, spoken of as one of the committee, was one of the men who were the following fall granted the large tract of land along the Pemigewasset called New Chester. He was one of the largest stockholders, owning sixteen lots. What he saw on this trip probably influenced him in investing in this territory; and it is very probable that his flattering report of the fine land here had a large influence in causing the tide of emigration from Chester and Sandown to this region, which occurred later.

The next season another expedition was sent to explore the northern country. Capt. Peter Powers, of Hollis, and Lieut. James Stevens and Ensign Ephraim Hale, of Townsend, Mass., were the officers. They rendezvoused at Concord and started north Saturday, June 15, 1754. The following extracts are from Capt. Powers' journal:

Saturday, June 15. This day left Rumford and marched to Contoocook, which is about eight miles, and here tarried all night.

Sunday, June 16. This day tarried at Contoocook, and went to meeting, and tarried all this night.

Monday, June 17. This morning weather fair, and we fixed our packs and went and put them on board our canoes, about nine of the clock, and some of the men went in the canoes and the rest on the shore. And so we marched up the river Merrimack to the crotch, or parting thereof: and then up the Pemigewasset about one mile, and camped above the carrying-place, which carrying-place is about one hundred rods long; and the whole of this day's march is thirteen miles.

Tuesday, June 18. This day marched up the Pemigewasset river, about eight miles to Smith's river, and then east one hundred rods, and then north two hundred and twenty rods, to the long carrying-place on Pemigewasset river and then camped.

Wednesday, June 19. We marched on our journey and carried across the "long carrying-place" on Pemigewasset river two miles north east, which land hath a good soil, beech and maple, with a good quantity of large masts. From the place where we put in the canoes we steered



east, north-east, up the river about one mile, and then we steered north-east one mile, and north six miles up the Sawhegenet falls, where we carried by about four rods; and from the falls we steered about north-east to Pemigewasset interval two miles, and from the beginning of the interval we made good our course north four miles, and there camped on a narrow point of land. The last four miles the river was extremely crooked.

Thursday, June 20. We steered our course one turn with another, which were great turns, west, north-west, about two miles and a half to the crotch or parting of the Pemigewasset river, at Baker's river mouth; thence from the mouth of Baker's river up said river north-west by west, six miles. This river is extraordinary crooked, and good interval. Thence up the river about two miles north-west, and there we shot a moose, and the sun about a half an hour high, and there camped.

This party went as far as Dalton. The captain and two men penetrated the woods as far as Northumberland. They returned the latter part of July, but after reaching Haverhill, July 6, Capt. Powers records nothing in his journal concerning the return march.

Previous to 1750, the Indians withdrew from the valley of the Pemigewasset to the head waters of the Connecticut or the still more distant woods of Canada, and returned only when on the warpath or to revisit the homes and graves of their fathers. Probably the last war parties passed through this section in 1754, when an attack was made on Stevenstown, now the lower part of Franklin, in May, when a family of seven persons was captured, and again in August when several were slain. Two years later, two men, Ezekiel Flanders and Edward Emery, of Boscawen, while hunting and trapping in Hebron, were both killed by Indians. One was shot while skinning a beaver, and the other, as was told by the Indians afterwards, was killed while carrying a beaver into camp.

Among the early hunters within the limits of Bristol was a man by the name of Fowler. His camp was situated near the mouth of Fowler's river, which stream took its name from him.<sup>1</sup> He spent several winters in his camp and met with great success. Suddenly he disappeared, and whether he was killed by Indians, as many supposed, was never positively known. No furs were found in his camp, but a rusty gun-barrel was found on Sugar Loaf mountain many years afterwards which was presumed to belong to this early hunter.

In 1762, three men, Col. Howard, Jesse Harriman, and Simeon Stevens, of Salisbury, thought they could go to Haverhill by a more direct route than by the way of Plymouth. They, accordingly, with an old hunter to guide them, left "the long carrying place" to their right and went "west of Newfound

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<sup>1</sup> Maj. John Tolford and Ensign William Tolford, who surveyed the township later, sought to perpetuate their names by naming this stream Tolford's river, and this name appears on the map of the town made by them. The effort was not successful and its earlier name still survives.



pond," followed up the northwestern branch of Baker's river into Coventry, now Benton, and thence down the Oliverian to the Connecticut, making the trip in four days.

At a meeting of the proprietors of New Chester, held at Chester, Jan. 21, 1760, a committee was elected whose duty it was to prosecute "to final judgment and execution" all persons found guilty of "cutting, hauling, and destroying timber" in the new township. From this it would appear that timber thieves had preceded actual settlers.

## CHAPTER IV

### THE PROPRIETARY HISTORY

Where beasts with man divided empire claim  
—*Goldsmith.*

The territory of New Chester was a part of that immense tract of land in New Hampshire and Massachusetts granted to John Mason, Nov. 7, 1629. John Mason was a merchant in London and later governor of Newfoundland. The Council of Plymouth, created by James III, in 1620, which had control of all the lands in New England, made a grant to Mason, in the year named, of all the lands "From the Piscataqua river and up the same to the furthest head thereof, and from thence north-westwardly till sixty miles from the mouth of the harbor are finished; also through Merrimack river to the furthest head thereof and so forward up into the land westward until sixty miles are finished and from thence to cross overland to the end of sixty miles accounted from the mouth of the Piscataqua river."

After the death of Mason, in 1635, this patent was neglected. The land was claimed by Massachusetts, which granted several towns within the limits of Mason's patent. Six months previous to this grant, Rev. Peter Wheelright purchased of the Indians a large section of the same territory and the ownership of this land was in controversy for more than one hundred years.

Finally, John Tufton Mason, a Boston merchant and an heir sixth in descent from John Mason, succeeded in having his title confirmed. After he came into possession, he sold to Massachusetts that portion of his claim lying within the limits of that state. The state of New Hampshire negotiated for the purchase of the large portion within its limits, but Mason, discouraged at delays, in 1746, sold his entire interest within the state to a syndicate that became known as the Masonian proprietors. This syndicate was at first composed of twelve men and the stock was divided into fifteen shares; viz., Theophilus Atkinson, three shares; Mark Hunkings Wentworth, two shares; Richard Hibird, John Wentworth, John Moffat, Samuel Moore, Jotham Odiorne, George Jaffrey, Joshua Pierce, Nathaniel Meserve of Portsmouth, Thomas Wallingford of Somersworth and Thomas Packard, each one share. Subsequently, John Rindge, Col. Joseph Blanchard, Daniel Pierce, John Tufton Mason, John Tomlinson, Matthew Livermore, William Park, Samuel Solley, and Clement March became interested by purchase.

Col. Blanchard became the business agent of the company, and under his wise and able management many town rights were

sold. Col. Blanchard was a shrewd business man and a man of great force of character. He commanded the New Hampshire regiment in the campaign against Crown Point, in 1755, and gained enduring fame in conflicts with the Indians at Fort Edwards and Lake George.

The storm of indignation that swept over the state at Mason's success and subsequent sale was allayed by the wise course pursued by the purchasers in promptly quitclaiming all their interests in the towns that had been granted by Massachusetts and settled.

The boundary of the Masonian grant in New Hampshire as finally agreed upon was a curved line commencing at the Massachusetts border at the westerly bound of Fitzwilliam, thence to the westerly bound of New London and Alexandria and the northerly bound of New Chester to the Pemigewasset river, thence east to the Maine line, and thence south on the line between Maine and New Hampshire to the sea.

In 1753, a syndicate of fifty men of Chester and vicinity purchased of the Masonian proprietors a tract of land estimated to contain thirty thousand acres, exclusive of ponds, lying west of the Pemigewasset river and south of the curved line at this point. This tract was named New Chester, because many of the men interested were residents of Chester, and the purchasers became known as the New Chester proprietors. The deed for this township was given Sept. 14, 1753, and read as follows:

Province of ) Pursuant to the Powers and authority Granted and  
New Hampshire } Vested in me the Subscriber by the Proprietors of  
lands Purchased of John Tuffton Mason Esqr in the Province of New  
Hampshire by their vote passed at their meeting held at Portsmouth in  
Said Province the 27<sup>th</sup> Day of August A D 1753—

I do by these presents on the terms and Limitations with the Reservations hereafter expressed give and grant all the Right Title Property possession Claim & Demand of the Proprietors aforesaid in the following proportions unto John Tolford four Shares John McMurphy Esqr James McFerson Matthew Thornton Esqr Ten Shares Robert Fletcher James Moor John Aikin John Mann John Tolford junr James Quenton Hugh Tolford Mark Karr William Graham Jacob Sargent James Wadwell John Durham, Samuel Gault, Robert White, Josiah Willard three Shares, John Mills James White Timothy Ingalls, Henry Herring, Samuel Moores, John Underhill, William Tolford Samuel Emerson Thomas Craige, John Gordon, Robert Craige Orlando Colby, Joseph Clark Archabald Dunlap three Shares Henry Hall, Thomas Wills, John Hazeltine, Ebenezer Dearborn James Shirla Thomas Shirla James Shirla Junr John Kelsey Richard Pearl Alexander McClure Joshua Tolford Stephen Ferrington one Share to each person not particularly mentioned above their proportion also to Jeremiah Colburn three Rights Samuel Searle three Rights Timothy Favour one Right Robert McMurphy one Right, Nathanael Ingalls one Right which Tract or Township shall be called New Chester of in and to all that Tract of Land Lying in the Province aforesaid bounded North Westerly by the line lately Ran & Marked for the western Bounds of Masons Patent Easterly by Pemigewassett River Southerly by a Tract of Land Called Emerys Town and Southwesterly by a Tract of Land Called Alexandria Bounded Beginning at the Northerly corner of Alexandria

aforesaid in the patent line aforesaid and running from thence by Said Alexandria South easterly five miles and a quarter more or less to the most Easterly corner of Said Alexandria to a Hemlock Tree Marked. From thence the line Turns by Said Alexandria South Fifty three Degrees West eight Miles and a Quarter more or less to a Beech Tree marked from thence South Easterly by the line of Heiddelburg So called one mile to an Elm Tree to the Corner of said Heiddelburg and from thence South till it intersects the western line of Emerys Town about half a Mile from thence North Seventy three Degrees East by said Emerys line to Pemigewasset River and from thence Northerly Bounding by Pemigewasset River including all the islands against Said Tract till it Comes to where the patent Line aforesaid Crosses said River & From thence Running South westerly by the patent Line aforesaid to the Bound first mentioned which Tract Contains by estimation exclusive of Ponds Thirty Thousand acres. To them their Heirs and Assigns To have and to hold on the following Terms and Conditions with the Reservations here in after Expressed (viz).

That the Tract of Land or Township aforesaid be Divided into Ninety three Equal Shares Two Lots at the Least to Each Share and to be Finished and Drawn for in Some public and Equitable manner at or before the last Day of November 1754 That Three of the aforesaid Shares be granted Free of Charge one for the first Settled Minister one for the Ministrey and one for the schools there for ever one Lot in each of the Said Shares to be first Laid out and Lots couppelled to them so as not to be Drawn for and Two Lots Containing one hundred acres Each for the incouragement of Building Mills to be Disposed of by the Grantees for that use That Twenty more of the Said Shares be reserved to and for the Grantors their Heirs and Assigns Forever and acquitted from all Duty and Charge untill improved by the owners or Some holding under Respectively.

That the owners of Forty of the other shares (viz) John Tolford three Shares James McFarson one Matthew Thornton Esq one James Moore one John Mann one Hugh Tolford one Mark Karr one William Graham one Jacob Sargent one John Durham one Samuel Gault one Robert White one Josiah Willard one John Mills one James White one Nathaniel Ingalls one Henry Herring one Samuel Moores one Samuel Emerson one Thomas Wells one Thomas Craige one John Gordon one Robert Craige one Orlando Colby one Joseph Clark one Archabald Dunlap three Henry Hall one John Hazelton one Ebenezer Dearborn one James Shirla one James Shirla Junr one John Kelsey one Richard Pearl one Alexander McClure one Stephen Farrington one John Aikin one—Make Sittlement in the following manner (viz) each at the expiration of three years and Eight months from the Date hereof on each of the aforesaid forty shares have three acres parcel of his Right Respectively Cleared Inclosed and fitted for mowing and Tillage and a house built of a Room Sixteen feet Square at the least fitted for Comfortable Dwelling in and some person inhabitting in each house Respectively and Continue Resident and inhabitant there for seven years next coming by themselves or Some other person and annually for each of the Said Seven years Clear Inclose and fit as aforesaid one acre more—

That Twenty more of the Grantees (viz) John Tolford one John McMurphy Esq one Matthew Thornton Esq five Robert Fletcher one John Tolford Jr one James Quenton one James Waddell one Josiah Willard two Timothy Ingalls one John Underhill one William Tolford one Thomas Wells one James Shirla one Joshua Tolford one Robert McMurphy one—Make Settlement in Manner as aforesaid in every Respect Saving only that they be allowed one year longer time for Doing and performing the Several and Respective parts of Duty of Sittlement and no longer

That a Convenient Meeting house for the Publick worship of God be built on S<sup>d</sup> Tract where the Grantees shall think most Convenient within



Ten years from this Date and Ten Acres of Land Reserved there for Publick use.

That the Lands in Said Township or Tract belonging to grantors and grantees be subject to have all necessary highways Laid through them without any allowance or pay for damage That there be a further reservation to and for the grantors out of Said Tract of Five hundred acres to be Laid out at the Charge of the Grantees before the general Division of Said Tract under the Direction of me the subscriber or such other person as the Grantors as aforesaid Shall appoint so as not to Lye in the place where the Meeting House Shall nor prejudice the Town plat near the Same free from Duty and all Charges That the aforesaid Grantees their Heirs or Assigns by a Major vote in Publick Meeting Call'd for that purpose grant and assess in Equel proportion such sum or sums of Money as they shall think necessary from time to time for Carrying forward and Completing the sittlement aforesaid and every of the grantees exclusive of the three Publick Lots who shall neglect for the Space of Sixty Days next after such Assessment shall be granted and made to pay the Same So Much of Such Delinquent Right or Rights Respectively shall and may be sold as will pay such Tax & Taxes and all Charges arising thereon by a Committee to be appointed by the grantees for that purpose—and in case any of the Grantees Shall neglect or refuse to perform any of the articles aforesaid by him respectively to be Done he Shall Forfeit his share and Right in said Township and every part thereof to those of the grantees or their assigns who Shall have Complied with the conditions on their part herein expressed and it shall and may be lawful for them or any person by their authority to enter into and upon the rights Shares or part of Such Delinquent owner in the name and behalf of the whole of the grantees or their assigns shall have complied as aforesaid on their respective parts to a move oust & expell for the use of them their heirs & assigns provided they settle or cause to be Settled each Such Delinquents Right within the Term of one year at the Furthest from the period that is by this Instrument stipulated to be done as the Condition of this Grant and fully Discharge & Comply with the whole Duty Such Delinquent ought to have done within one year from Time to time after the Respective period thereof.

And in case the grantees or their assigns fulfill their part as aforesaid Shall neglect fulfilling as aforesaid the Duty of any Delinquent owner that then such share or shares Right or Rights So Delinquent shall Revert and Belong to the Grantors their heirs and assigns Free from Duty & Charges & be wholly at their Disposal

Further that the Grantees or their assigns within Thirty Days after the Said Tract shall be Lotted out & Drawn for shall Return a Plan of the Lots Numbered and Schedule of Such alotment & Draught Certified by their Clerk on oath into the Grantors Clerks office

Further that all white pine Trees fit for Masting his Majestys Navy growing on Said Tract be & hereby are Granted to his Majesty his heirs and Successors forever, always provided there Shall be no indian war within any of the times limited as aforesaid for Doing the Duty Conditioned in this Grant and in case that should happen the Same time to be allowed after Such impediment shall be removed for doing the respective Duty aforesaid—To all which Premises I Joseph Blanchard agent for and in behalf of the grantors have hereunto set my hand and Seal this fourteenth Day of September in the Twenty Seventh year of his Majesties Reign A D 1753

Signed Sealed & }  
Delid in presence of }

Joseph Blanchard (L. S.)

James Minot Junr  
Sarah Blanchard

A true Copy Recorded June 2<sup>d</sup> 1806

Attest, Errors Excepted Carr Huse Proprietors Clerk

The following is a copy of the record of what appears to have been the first meeting of the proprietors after the deed of the township was passed :

At a meeting of the Proprietors of a Township adjoining to Pemigewasset Granted by the Proprietors of the Right of Capt. John Mason to Capt. John Tolford and others held at Chester ye 11<sup>th</sup> day of October 1753.

Joseph Blanchard, Esq. was Chosen Moderator.

James Quenton was chosen proprietors' clerk and was Sworn.

Capt John Tolford was chosen Treasurer for this Propriety.

Whereas in and by the Charter of this Township there is Granted Liberty for Twenty Shares to be Delayed Settlement for one year after the Term Sett for Forty to be Settled there—Therefore Voted that that Priviledge Shall be Sold at this Meeting to the Highest Bidder and the Money Raised by S<sup>d</sup> Sale to be Granted and Distributed to & amongst the first Forty Settlers in the following Manner (that is to say) that the first Ten Shares that Shall fulfil the Duty of the first Term and actually Settle there shall have one hundred and Twenty pounds old tenor <sup>1</sup> part of the produce of the sales of the Priviledges aforesaid which sale is made and amounts to the sum of two hundred and Eighty Six pounds old tenor to be paid to the Treasurer within three years from the Date of the Charter Security to be given for the payment thereof to the Treasurer to his Acceptance and that Eighty pounds old Tenor part of S<sup>d</sup> Money to be paid to the next Ten that Shall in like Manner be Complied with & that Fifty Six pounds like tenor be paid to the next Ten So fulfilling and that the remainder of the S<sup>d</sup> Two hundred and Eighty Six pounds be paid to the Remainder of the S<sup>d</sup> forty Settlers always provided they Settle and Do the Duty of the first Term within the Time Limited by the Charter and notwithstanding anything in this vote it is furthered Considered and Granted that if Twenty Shall fulfill and Settle as aforesaid within one month from the Time the first Ten Shall Settle as aforesaid then two sums set in this vote Shall be Equally Divided amongst them and in like manner for the third and forth Tens provided they are Settled within one month from the time the first Ten shall be Settled but on failure thereof to be Distributed according to the first Stating in this vote.

Also Voted the Said Township be Divided and lotted out according to the conditions in the Charter for the Same and within the time there limited and in Case the Committee Chosen for that Purpose Shall on Examination find out and Judge it Convenient to lay out more lots than Two to each Share that they may be directed to do it.

Also Voted that Capt. John Tolford Capt. Thomas Wells & Mr. William Tolford be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid fully empowered to hire all the necessary assistance for doing the Same and that they Shall be paid for their Reasonable Charges by this Propriety and that in case either of the aforesaid Committee Shall at any time be prevented of their attendance on Said Servis that then Mr. Ebenezer Dearborn be Chosen and appointed to Serve in his Room and in case of any Impediment that two of the above mentioned persons cannot attend then Mr. Archibald Dunlap be Impowered to Join them as one of the Committee.

No more records of the proceedings of the proprietors of New Chester are found until those dated Jan. 24, 1760, when a meeting was held at the house of Maj. John Tolford, innholder, in Chester. The record of the first meeting was marked "No.

<sup>1</sup>All currency issued prior to 1742 was termed old tenor ; while that of 1742 or later was called new tenor.

1"; of this meeting, "No. 9," so it would seem that there were seven meetings between these two dates of which no records have been preserved, and nothing can now be gathered as to what business was transacted. At this meeting, Maj. John Tolford was elected moderator, and Maj. Tolford, Capt. Thomas Wells, and Ensign William Tolford were made a committee to prosecute all persons found trespassing on the lands of the proprietors, and they were instructed "to bring them to final judgment and execution." It was also voted to raise ten shillings new tenor on each right for current expenses.

The next meeting of which we have any knowledge was held May 12, 1762, at Maj. Tolford's, in Chester. Whether any work had been done previous to this date in surveying the lands of New Chester is uncertain, but at this meeting the committee elected in October, 1753, Major Tolford, Capt. Thomas Wells, and Ensign William Tolford, were reelected to lay out the lands of New Chester into lots. They were to have power to establish lines and bounds and to hire a surveyor, ax men and chain men to do the work, and to have five pounds old tenor per day for their services. For this purpose a tax of ten pounds, old tenor, was laid on each right. This committee reported at a meeting held at the house of John Webster, innholder, in Chester, June 18, 1765. The report was accepted and the committee was authorized to complete the work. Eighteen pounds, old tenor, was voted on each right to pay the charges already incurred.

The following is the record of the drawing, no date being given:

Proprietor's Name.	1st Division.	2nd Division	3rd Division.	4th Division.
Matthew Thornton, Esqr <sup>1</sup>	22	71	90	51
Archabald Dunlap	55	34	6	93
John Tolford, Esqr	38	22	66	24
Matthew Thornton, Esqr	40	7	42	8
Joseph Clark	35	8	10	11
Ensign William Tolford	9	20	5	3
John Tolford, Esqr	57	57	7	69
John McMurphy, Esqr	74	61	52	37
John Gordon	24	32	2	18
Matthew Thornton, Esqr	10	13	88	6
John Tolford, Esqr	48	53	45	39
Robert McMurphy	94	55	70	65
Matthew Thornton, Esqr	59	92	39	70
Ens <sup>n</sup> Henry Hall	20	67	16	31
Thomas Shirley	1	37	23	14
John Tolford, Jr	45	40	80	91
John Durham	91	84	92	57
Lieut Robert Fletcher	31	41	27	19
Hugh Tolford	7	18	3	12
Ens <sup>n</sup> James Quinton	78	59	53	42
Col <sup>l</sup> Josiah Willard	46	30	84	90
Matthew Thornton, Esqr	6	1	87	4
Stephen Ferrington	23	74	76	28
Robert Craige	76	56	73	22
Jeremiah Colburn	49	25	20	82
John Tolford, Esqr	3	16	28	29
James Shirley, Jun <sup>r</sup>	89	79	32	64
Matthew Livermore, Esqr	60	93	38	75
Matthew Thornton, Esqr	86	87	55	66
Mark Hg Wintworth	52	27	46	84
John Mills	56	39	50	80
Samuel Moores, Esqr	8	19	67	13
Timothy Ingalls	75	64	54	89
James White	62	90	40	85
Capt John Underhill	41	69	83	34
Capt Thomas Wells	90	83	33	60
Joshua Tolford	66	52	68	74
Nathanael Ingalls	15	12	25	55
Samuel Searls	47	23	43	92
Capt James Shirley	88	77	31	56
John Kelsey	85	88	11	81
Jotham Odiorn, Esqr	83	33	69	49
Col Theodore Atkinson	30	46	63	21
Lieut Thomas Craige	27	2	21	25

<sup>1</sup>Matthew Thornton was born in Ireland in 1714, and came to America when a boy. He practiced medicine in Londonderry and was surgeon in the famous expedition of Sir William Pepperell against Louisburg. He was a member of the state committee of safety in 1775, and was president of the convention in May, 1775, that declared New Hampshire a sovereign state. He was a member from New Hampshire of the Federal Congress, 1776 to 1778, and one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. He died at Newburyport, Mass., June 24, 1804, aged 91. His portrait hangs in the council chamber at the state-house.



Proprietor's Name.	1st Division	2nd Division	3rd Division	4th Division
Col <sup>l</sup> Joseph Blanchard . . .	42	3	85	35
Lieut Ebenezer Dearborn . . .	81	80	60	59
James McFarson . . .	32	14	29	48
Jeremiah Colburn . . .	28	42	61	27
Samuel Gault . . .	82	81	35	47
Samuel Searls . . .	5	44	82	5
John Man . . .	92	85	44	15
Pierce & Moore . . .	34	38	93	40
Robert White . . .	53	29	49	88
Capt John Moffatt . . .	80	86	59	61
Jeremiah Colburn . . .	69	62	13	76
Matthew Thornton, Esqr . . .	63	60	51	79
Thomas Wallingsford, Esqr . . .	68	63	56	78
Matthew Thornton, Esqr . . .	58	82	41	87
George Jeffrey, Esqr . . .	16	6	89	54
John Aikin . . .	18	50	17	32
Wm Parker, Esqr . . .	54	34	49	68
Joshua Pierce, Esqr . . .	43	28	81	36
John Ringe . . .	64	73	58	63
Jacob Sargent . . .	77	66	48	62
Matthew Thornton . . .	23	9	62	26
Matthew Thornton, Esqr . . .	67	89	14	77
Col <sup>l</sup> Messhove & others . . .	36	5	64	10
James Wadwell . . .	93	36 & 68		58
Thomlinson & Mason . . .	44	24	75	44
Orlando Colby . . .	51	26	74	86
Henry Herring . . .	73	15	8	67
Samuel Searls . . .	37	21	65	7
Col <sup>l</sup> Josiah Willard . . .	19	51	36	43
Wm Graham . . .	14	11	24	17
Alexander McCluer . . .	70	58	72	50
Solly & March . . .	21	70	26	30
John Wentworth Esqr . . .	65	54	57	72
Timothy Favour . . .	4	43	22	2
Matthew Thornton, Esqr . . .	39	4	19	9
John Hazeltine . . .	12	47	78	1
Col <sup>l</sup> Thomas Packer . . .	2	17	4	16
Archabald Dunlap . . .	33	31	15	46
Richard Wibird Esqr . . .	13	10	91	20
Col <sup>l</sup> Josiah Willard . . .	87	76	30	41
Richard Pearl . . .	84	91	34	38
James Moores . . .	79	65	9	52
Archabald Dunlap . . .	17	49	86	53
Mark Karr . . .	11	48	18	33
Samuel Emerson Esqr . . .	50	53	73	83

Portsmouth September 8, 1806  
Copy Examined

Jeremiah Libbey, Prop<sup>rs</sup> Clerk

The 500-acre lot reserved by the Masonian proprietors, before the general division, was located in the extreme south-western part of the township and was called the "farm of 500

acres." This land, with several undrawn lots and three lots in the "Kyar Sarge" gore, made 1,500 acres, equal to 100 acres for each of the original Masonian shares. The following is from the Masonian proprietors' record :

In the Masonian proprietors Five hundred acre lots Drawn Decr 24<sup>th</sup> 1781 as follows

Tomlinson & Mason	No. 1
Meserve & Co	" 2
Theodore Atkinson	" 3
Thomas Packer	" 4
John Moffatt	" 5

New Chester, Oct 3<sup>d</sup> 1806

Copy examined

Carr Huse Prop<sup>rs</sup> Clerk

Division of Lots in New-Chester and three lots in Kyah Sarge to make fifteen Lots; one to each Right

The Draft of the Lots to the 15 Purchasers Rights, vizt

To Richard Wibird Esqr Lot No 55 3<sup>d</sup> division in New Chester  
 To John Moffatt Esqr—5 in the 500 Acre Lot in New Chester  
 To George Jaffrey Esqr—78 2<sup>d</sup> div : in New Chester  
 To Mark Hg Wentworth Esqr—8 in Kyah Sarge  
 To Jotham Odiorne Esqr—66 4<sup>th</sup> div : in New Chester  
 To Thomas Packer Esqr—4 in the 500 Acre Lot in New Chester  
 To Thomlinson & Mason—1 in the 500 Acre Lot in New Chester  
 To Solly and March—72 1<sup>st</sup> div : in New Chester  
 To Joshua Peirce Esqr—29 1<sup>st</sup> div. in New Chester  
 To Peirce and Moore—9, 2<sup>d</sup> div. in New Chester  
 To John Wentworth Esqr 10 in Kyah Sarge  
 To Theodore Atkinson Esqr 3 in the 500 Acre Lot in New Chester  
 To Thomas Walingford Esqr—12 in Kyah Sarge  
 To John Rindge—62 3<sup>d</sup> div. in New Chester  
 To Meserve and Compa—2 in the 500 Acre Lot in New Chester

The following were the public lots:

MILL LOTS: No. 61, First Division, on Newfound river and Lot No. 71, First Division, on Smith's river.

SCHOOL LOTS: No. 25, in the First Division, Nos. 1 and 37 in the Third Division and No. 89 in the Fourth Division.

MINISTERIAL LOTS: No. 26, in the First Division, 75 in the Second Division, and Nos. 23 and 71 in the Fourth Division.

PARSONAGE LOTS: No. 72 in the Second Division, 73 in Fourth Division, and "a point of land on westerly side of Newfound pond and a small island opposite."

The proprietors of New Chester early gave their attention to the construction of roads in the new township. May 12, 1762, twelve pounds, old tenor, was assessed on each right for the purpose of building bridges and opening highways, and "Esq. Sanborn" was elected a committee to see that the money was expended to the best advantage. This committee and the laborers were to receive three pounds, ten shillings, old tenor, per day.



This is A  
True Plan of  
New Chester  
Laid Down By the  
Scale of Eight Parts  
160 Rods to an Inch—  
By John & Joshua Telford  
Surveyors. 1765

Note. The first Division is  
Bounded By Penigewassit River  
and is Described by Black Lines—  
The Second Division Contains Six  
Ranges & four Lots in the Seventh  
Range Which are No 90 No 91—92 & 93—  
The third Division is Described by the  
letter: C—  
The fourth Division Begins at the Corner of  
the home Lott No 94 on New Britain Line & is  
Contained in three Ranges—  
The first Division Contains 90 Acres—The Second  
third and fourth Divisions Contains 135 acres Each.

BRISTOL—incorporated June 24 1819—Begins at NE corner  
of Lot No 38, 1 Div.—thence to NE corner of No 66.  
3<sup>d</sup> Div.—thence to NE corner of No 78. 2 Div.—then to SE cor-  
ner of No 69. 2 Div.—than to NE corner of same lot thence Wly  
on the range line to Newfound lake—for the N<sup>o</sup> side between Bris-  
tol & Bridgewater—and contains all that part of New Chester N<sup>o</sup>ly  
of Smiths river bounded by the middle of said river to the division  
line between lots 72 & 73 & then on 3<sup>d</sup> line to Penigewassit river for  
the Boundary line between Bristol & New Chester—

It was also voted that any proprietor who did not pay this assessment before the adjournment of the meeting should have enough of his rights sold at auction to pay the tax. "Esq. Thornton, Esq. Emerson and Capt. Andrew Jack" were made a committee to sell the land thus forfeited.

It would seem, therefore, that bridle paths or trails were opened in New Chester as early as 1762, but there are no further records on this subject till Sept. 16, 1766, when Elisha Sanborn presented an itemized bill of the labor done on the highways that season. This bill, which was accepted, was as follows :

	Days.	Old Tenor.	
		£.	s.
John Tolford, Esqr . . . . .	12	42	
Elisha Sanborn, Esqr . . . . .	11	53	10
Henry Hall . . . . .	12	42	
Robert McMurphy . . . . .	12	43	
Joseph Basford . . . . .	11	38	10
John Mills . . . . .	12	42	
Richard Pearl . . . . .	12	42	
James Mason . . . . .	12	42	
Robert McKinley . . . . .	11	38	10
John Tolford, Jr . . . . .	11	38	10
Joshua Tolford . . . . .	12	42	
John Sanborn . . . . .	11	38	10
Jonathan Basford . . . . .	12	42	
Robert Forsaith . . . . .	11	38	10
Timothy Favor . . . . .	10 1-2	36	15
Carr Huse . . . . .	11	38	10
Cutting Favor . . . . .	10 1-2	36	15
James Dunlap . . . . .	12	42	
Ebenezer Dearborn . . . . .	12	42	
Moses Sargent . . . . .	12	42	
John Underhill . . . . .	12	42	
Charles Johnson . . . . .	11	38	10
		900	10

Nearly all of these workmen came from Chester and Sandown, and among them are the names of several who afterwards became settlers here. In the fall of this same year, a force of twenty-five or more men worked a week on the highways, and the following season a still larger force worked about the same length of time. In 1768, a force of twenty-eight men worked a total of 178 days, and in 1769, twenty-nine men worked a total of 191 days. Nearly all the workmen in 1769 were then settlers in the new township.

Assessments were made each year of from two dollars to twelve pounds, old tenor, on each right. The collection of this money was evidently a source of much trouble to the collectors, and the sale of lands for the nonpayment of assessments was of frequent occurrence.

At a meeting of the proprietors held Feb. 17, 1767, a tax of



two dollars was laid on each right for the purpose of building mills in New Chester, and at an adjourned meeting held two days later the following vote was passed :

Whereas the purchasers of the Land Contained in John Tufton Mason Patent Province of New Hampshire by their agent Joseph Blanchard, Esqr Impowered the Grantees of the New Township of New Chester in Said Patent to Dispose of two Certain Lots of Land to Build Mills for the Benefit of S<sup>d</sup> Township whereas John Tolford Esqr has this Day agreed to Build two Saw mills & two Grist mills in said New Chester (Viz) one grist mill and one Saw mill on the river known by the name of Newfound River and have the one fit for grinding and the other fit for Sawing by the first Day of November next and one grist mill and one Saw mill on the River known by the name of Smiths River within six years from this Date and to keep all the Said mills in good order for ever thereafter and to Grind and Saw for the inhabitants of Said Town as Stipulated in a Bond Signed and by Said Tolford delivered to Samuel Emerson & Mathew Thornton Esquires & Mathew Forsaith yeomen agents for and in Behalf of the grantees of Said New Chester therefore

Voted that the Lots and Land adjoining to Newfound pond River including the Stream and falls and the Lot Stream and falls on Smiths River both in Said New Chester Laid out by the Committee of the grantees aforesaid for the Use aforesaid be and thereby is given and granted to the Said John Tolford his heirs and assigns forever and two dollars to be paid from each Grantee of Said Township, one half to be paid by the first Day of May next; the remainder when the first two Mills is finished, he performing as mentioned in Said Bond. Also

Voted that the above named Samuel Emerson Mathew Thornton Esquires & Mathew Forsaith be and thereby are Authorized and Impowered to give Security & Deliver in the Capacity aforesaid a good warrantee Deed of the above premises to the above named John Tolford.

Dec. 28, 1768, it was "Voted that Maj. Tolford Shall be obliged to tend his Grist mill in New Chester for the Proprietors every first Monday in each month for the year and no other Days in Said year."

Apr. 1, 1773, the time in which to build the mills on Smith's river was extended four years.

At a meeting held Dec. 15, 1767, it was voted to raise twenty-four shillings lawful money on each right to pay bills thus far contracted, and Major Tolford was elected collector and allowed one shilling on each pound collected. Capt. Underhill, Joshua Tolford, and John Tolford, Jr., were elected a committee "to view the roads in New Chester and think of them as they shall judge necessary," and order where the money to be raised that day should be expended. They, and the men employed by them, were to have three shillings and six pence per day for their labor. Joshua Tolford was elected clerk at this meeting, and Joseph Basford presented his account for labor on the highway, which was allowed.

At a meeting in Chester, Dec. 28, 1768, at the house of Capt. Underhill, it was voted that the previous committee, viz., Capt. John Underhill, Joshua Tolford, Esq., and John Tolford, Jr., be

continued surveyors of highways, and be a committee to establish a highway through the "home lots."

One of the conditions of the grant of New Chester was that a settlement should be made on forty of the shares within three years and eight months from the date of the deed, provided there should be no Indian war. In case of such war, the same time was given for settlement after the close of the war. The French and Indian war, which commenced in 1754, closed with the capitulation of Montreal, Sept. 8, 1760, and forty settlements should, therefore, have been made by May, 1763. It was, however, three years after this date before a settlement was made within the township, and when ten years had lapsed only about half of the stipulated forty settlements had been made. Under the terms of the deed, therefore, the township of New Chester was forfeited to the Masonian proprietors. A similar state of affairs existed in other townships granted by the Masonian proprietors, and it was voted, at a meeting held July 17, 1771, to foreclose their rights and recover the lands thus forfeited. Accordingly, a committee was elected, consisting of John Fisher, William Whipple, and Peter Pearse, with power "to Employ a Person to take an Account of the Settlers, &c., in the towns of New Chester, Alexandria, Heidlebourg,<sup>1</sup> Parrystown,<sup>2</sup> New Brittan,<sup>3</sup> & to make a Legal Entry on the same in behalf of the Propriety." Jonas Minot, of Concord, Mass., was employed by the committee to perform this service. He secured as witnesses Cutting Favor, of New Chester, and Samuel Atkinson, of Boscawen, who accompanied him on his visit through the forfeited territory. In the report of his doings Mr. Minot says :

By Virtue of a Power Granted to me by the Proprietors of Lands Commonly Called Masons Patent Lying in the Province of New Hampshire and agreeable to my Instructions I Did in the Name of Said Proprietors and for them on the twentyeth Day of July A D 1771 Enter and Take Possession of the Forfetted Lands Lying in a Place Called New chester & on the 22 Day I Entered the Place Called Alexandria, & on the 23 Day, the Place Called New Britton and on the 24th the Place Called Herreford<sup>4</sup> & Did Openly Declare my Entering and taking Possion of the forfeted Lands in Each and Every of those Places to be by Virtue of a Power Given to me by the Said Proprietors & also Openly Declared that I then in the Name and for the use of the Said Proprietors held in Possession All and Every of the forfeted Lands Lots Tracts & Destinctly & Seperated to their Use & Did Openly & Strictly forbid any person Entering any of those forfeted Lots or Tracts of Land or Doing any Trespass theiron Declareing that I then Reinstated the sd Proprietors in the Full Possion of all the forfeited Lands in Each Place aforementioned Peticularly.

Mr. Minot, in presenting his report, gave the following detailed tabular statement of the condition of the settlements in New Chester :

<sup>1</sup> New London. <sup>2</sup> Sutton. <sup>3</sup> Andover. <sup>4</sup> Part of Newbury.

## HISTORY OF BRISTOL

	House	Famely	years	months	Acres Improved	How Long		Acres Cut	How Long	No of Lot	Division	under whom or whome Drown by
						year	month					
1	Cutting Favor	1	4	—	35	1	—	30	1	77 and 78	1	James Quantin & win- trup Sargent 2 wrights
2	one Not finished—	1	1	4	17	—	—	—	—	79 and 82	1	—
3	Jeremiah Quimbe	1	1	6	6	1	—	—	—	88 and 89	1	—
4	Jacob Heath	1	1	4	8	—	—	—	—	90	1	Capt wells for 1 wright 1-2
5	Kar Huse	1	—	3	5	—	—	—	—	91	1	—
6	Henery Wells	1	3	—	16	—	—	2	—	73	1	Mathew Foresaith
	Robert Foresaith	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	74	1	Major Tolford & Ensign Tolford
7	Joshua Tolford	1	2	Chie fly	10	—	—	6	1	72	1	a Mill Lot & Lot No—
8	Peter Sleeper	1	3	—	18	—	—	8	—	63 & 51	1	Esqr Thornton &
9	Gideon Sleeper	1	2	—	13	—	—	—	—	62	1	James White
10	Moses Worthen	1	1	—	7	—	—	—	—	59	—	Esqr Thornton
11	Ebenezer Ingalls	1	1	6	6	—	—	—	—	58	1	Esqr Thornton
12	Thomas Lock	1	1	6	3	—	—	4	1	56	1	John Mills—Claimed by John Tolford
13	Benjamin Emmons	1	2	—	12	—	—	—	—	50	1	Esqr Emmerson of Chester
14	John Underhill	1	2	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	Capt Under Hill Cut 2 acres Under Esq Thornton
15	Peter Heath	1	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	14	1	—
16	Josiah Heath	1	1	6	2	—	—	—	—	11	1	—
17	Jonathan Croford	1	2	—	5	—	—	—	—	10	1	—
18	Thomas Croford	1	2	—	7	—	—	—	—	9	1	Esqr Thornton

Robert Croford	I	I	3	—	15	—	—	—	—	5	No 6 & No 7	I	Charles Johnson his own
John Mitchel	I	I	4	—	15	Partly improved times for 5 years	—	—	—	I	45	I	
John Tolford	I	I	been built about months	—	10	Partly improved times for 5 years	—	—	himself at having their			I	
No Residents													
John Tolford	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	10	I	44		I	
John Tolford	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	2	—	46		I	
John Tolford	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	2	—	—		I	mc Farsons
David Emmerson	I	Partly done	—	—	I	—	4	3 or 4	2 or 3 years	94		—	Robert Mc murphey
Ellec McClure	—	—	—	—	03-4	I	—	2	—	76		I	
Ellex McClure	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	o 9 months	75		I	
Major Tolford	—	—	—	—	I	—	—	4	—	61		I	also built 2 mills on the Proprietors Cost
Jonathan Lingalls	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 or 5	this Summer	57		I	Major Tolford
Lt Joseph Basford	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 or 3	—	55		I	
Robert Rannels	—	—	—	—	I I-2 this Spring	—	—	2	2	—		I	
Nathan Cast	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	6	81		I	
Chase Fuller	I house laid out but we cannot tell	Some e Say	—	& now	4	—	—	—	—	—		I	Esqr Thornton



July the 27th 1771 the above Return and the accounts of the Housen Persons Liveing in and the Improvements maid in Each and Every of the Places Called Alexandria Newchester Newbriton Perrys Town & Herreford are according to the Best accounts I Had from the Inhabitants of those Plases to gather with my own observations on Many of the Sd Improvements Excepting one Famely I was tould Lived in the place Called Hereford and are according to my Best Judgment which is humbly Submitted

Pr. Jonas Minott

Derryfield July the 27 1771 this may Certify that we weare Present with Jonas Minott the whole of the abovementioned Days and weare assisting in the takeing of the afore mentioned accounts of the above mentioned Places & saw him take the above Journall and that it is True according to our Best Judgment

Cutting Favor  
Samuel Atkinson

It appears that Mr. Minot presented his report on the 27th of July, 1771. On the 30th of that month, the Masonian proprietors elected another committee, consisting of John Fisher and Daniel Rogers, to consider the report and "to conferr with any Person who shall appear in behalf of New Chester referring to ye grant and forfeiture of New Chester and to report ye Circumstances of ye Conference." This committee presented the following as its conclusion :

In pursuance of a Vote passed the 30th of July last We have examined into the State and conferred with Messrs Tolford and McMurphy Proprietors of the Town of New Chester concerning the Forfeiture of the Said Town and now return the following Report of our doings therein.

It appears to us the Township of New Chester is forfeited for Non compliance with the Conditions of the Grant and is reseized by the Attorney of the Proprietors and We are of Opinion that the same be appropriated to the Use and Benefit of the proprietors, reserving to certain persons inhabiting and improving in the said town as follows.

That, it appearing to us upon the said conference there are 22 Houses with Families resident upon parts of certain Rights in the Sd Town we are of Opinion that altho they may not have complied entirely with the Terms of the Charter yet that each whole Right on part of which the Sd Houses are built and Improvements made should be reserved for and confirmed to the proprietors of such Rights.

That, it appearing to us upon the Sd Conference there are 11 persons who have begun making Improvements upon certain Lots but have no Houses and are not resident in the Sd town we are of opinion that the Sd Eleven Persons should remain possessed of the Lots on which such Beginnings have been made respectively provided that such Persons continue to make progressive Improvements and have a dwelling House built and a Family resident thereon within the space of twelve months.

Portsmouth, 15th August 1771

J. Fisher } Committee  
D. Rogers }

After a controversy lasting two years, the grantees of Perrys-town and New Breton secured the renewal of their grants, while

the grantees of Heidlebourg and Alexandria lost. July 7, 1773, Alexandria was regranted to Jonas Minot, and the same day Heidlebourg was regranted to Jonas Minot and others under the name of the Alexandria Addition.

After they had received the report of the committee, the Masonian proprietors appear to have taken no further action in regard to the forfeiture of the grant of New Chester. The grantees do not seem to have been at all disturbed, and continued to sell the lands as occasion presented. The settlement of the territory continued even during the time of the controversy over the forfeiture of the grants of the other towns mentioned.

The question of hiring a minister of the gospel to preach in New Chester was first considered by the proprietors at a meeting held at the inn of Samuel Emerson in Chester, Apr. 2, 1771, when "it was voted to raise half a dollar on each right to hire preaching in New Chester" that year.

It was also "Voted John Tolford, Samuel Emerson, Jethro Sanborn, Esq., & Capt. John Underhill and Henry Hall be a Committee to hire Such Minister of the Gospel as they Shall think Fit to preach to the inhabitants of New Chester and Some of the said Committee is to accompany any such preacher to New Chester without any pay for their time."

Apr. 1, 1773, one dollar on each right was voted for preaching, and these two amounts were apparently all that the proprietors raised for the support of the gospel in New Chester. At this meeting, the subject of building a meeting-house was also considered, when it was "Voted that there shall be a meeting-house built in New Chester Equal to Thirty five Feet Square one story High the present year." Carr Huse, Nason Cass, Peter Sleeper, Robert Forsaith, and Joshua Tolford, all residents of New Chester, were made a building committee. It was also voted to raise two dollars on each right for this purpose; and John Tolford, Robert Forsaith, Carr Huse, John Tolford, Jr., and Andrew Craige were elected assessors to assess the money, and John Tolford and Carr Huse collectors.

Jan. 20, 1774, a vote was passed that the two dollars raised at the last meeting for the erection of a meeting-house should be divided, and "applied towards building two meeting houses, one in the lower part of the town and the other in the upper part of the town and build the same on the parsonage lots." It was also voted that ten acres be cleared on the parsonage lot in the lower part of the town and ten on the parsonage lot in the upper part of the town, where the committee should judge most convenient and suitable. The building committee already elected was made a committee to clear the parsonage lot in the lower part of the town, while John Mitchell, Thomas Crawford, Jr., Andrew Craige, Benj. Emmons, and Ebenezer Ingalls were made a committee for the upper part of the town, and they were

instructed to see that the lots be cleared and the meeting-houses erected as soon as might be. Ten dollars was voted on each right towards clearing the land and building the houses of worship.

It was then voted that the town should be incorporated into two towns or parishes, and that the money raised at the last meeting for preaching should be used for this purpose, or so much of it as would be necessary. Samuel Emerson, Stephen Holland, and John Tolford, Esq., were authorized to secure the incorporation of the town into two townships.

Nothing came of this effort of the proprietors to build meeting-houses in the new town; and perhaps to the indifference of the proprietors, more than to any other cause, is due the fact that New Chester was so far behind her sister towns in the privileges of the sanctuary. There is no evidence to show that the committee elected to secure the incorporation of the town made any serious effort in this direction. From this time onward, the people of the town were left to work out their own destiny unaided.

The New Chester proprietors purchased this township not for homes for themselves, but wholly as a business enterprise. Dealing in town sites and wild land was a common method of speculation in those days. Several of the proprietors were interested in other townships, and only five of the entire number became actual settlers. Each man, having drawn his lots, and having a valid deed to the same, was at liberty to sell as opportunity presented. Consequently, after the organization and incorporation of the town, there was but little necessity for concerted action, and the meetings of the proprietors became less and less frequent. There were, it is true, a few pieces of land, in various parts of the town, that were not included in any lots, and were, consequently, common lands; but their value was small and, as time wore away, they were almost forgotten. In process of time, as the ownership of the lands changed, the meetings were changed from Chester to New Chester. The last meeting held in Chester was Feb. 12, 1788, at the house of William Bell, when Joshua Tolford, John Smith, and Thomas Crawford, all settlers in New Chester, were made a committee to run and settle lines, and to lay out and bound any lands owned by the proprietors.

Aug. 31, 1803, a meeting was held in New Chester, at the house of Maj. Theophilus Sanborn, when John Smith was elected moderator. A report from the committee on lotting and bounding unlotted lands was presented and accepted. In this work Carr Huse and Theophilus Sanborn were allowed for sixteen days' labor each and Joshua Tolford for fourteen days' labor, at nine shillings per day. Carr Huse, John Smith, and Maj. Sanborn were made a committee to ascertain what common or

undivided lands in town remained unsold, and to prosecute all persons found trespassing thereon.

On Tuesday, Jan. 10, 1804, there was a sale at the house of Maj. Sanborn of the unlotted lands. This sale included a point of land on the west side of the lake near Asa Hastings's; the "great island" and one small island in the lake; five islands in the Pemigewasset river; a gore of land containing eighteen acres between "Moses Lewis's mill lot and the lot Moses Sleeper lives on"; and several pieces of land in that part of New Chester now Hill. The "great island" in the lake was sold to Sherburn Sanborn for \$36.25; the "great island in the Pemigewasset river," was sold to John Merrill and Jonathan Merrill for \$6.25; the gore between Moses Lewis's lot and Moses Sleeper's was sold at \$9 per acre.



## CHAPTER V

### FIRST SETTLEMENTS IN NEW CHESTER

All kinds, all creatures stand or fall  
By strength of prowess or of wit ;  
'Tis God's appointment, who shall sway  
And who is to submit.

—*Wordsworth.*

The first blow in the wilderness of New Chester, for the purpose of clearing the land for cultivation, was struck by John Tolford, Jr.; but the honor of being the first permanent settler clearly belongs to Cutting Favor.

John Tolford, Jr., was one of the proprietors of the town and owned one share, consisting of four lots. One of the lots drawn by him was No. 45, in the First Division, located on the river near where is now Pemigewasset bridge. In 1765, he commenced to clear this land, and during the next five years he cleared ten acres of this lot and two acres of Lot 44, belonging to Tomlinson and Davis, and eight acres of Lot 46, belonging to Joshua Willard; and in 1770 he built a cabin on his own lot. He remained here only a few weeks at a time, and his object seems to have been to make the land more salable, rather than to make a settlement. On the organization of the town, in 1773, he was not taxed as a resident, but was taxed as such in 1775. After this latter date, he was taxed as a non-resident.

The same year that John Tolford, Jr., commenced his improvements, Cutting Favor visited the wilderness of New Chester for the purpose of selecting a place to settle. Tradition says he was accompanied by Benj. Emmons on the same errand. On this trip he came to the brook just north of where he settled, now the Wilson Foster place, and followed up this stream until he came to beaver dams and a meadow. Hunters had been there before him, but the dams remained. The stream was much larger than now and would furnish water for a sawmill; the meadow would afford wild grass for his stock while clearing the land; and the bank of the Pemigewasset was a delightful spot on which to build; and here he decided should be his home. This was in the summer of 1765. On September 5, of this year, he purchased 88 acres of Lot 77, First Division, of Winthrop Sargent, originally drawn by Jacob Sargent, and Feb. 4, 1766, he purchased the whole of Lot 78, of James Quenton. He proba-

bly came to New Chester and commenced improvements immediately after his second purchase, as it is said that he came in the winter.

Cutting Favor made his first log cabin on a site between the two present farmhouses of Wilson Foster, and here he toiled alone, clearing the land, during the greater part of two years, occasionally making a visit to his home in Newtown, now Newton. In the spring of 1768, he brought his wife and four children to their new home in the wilderness. Mrs. Favor was the first white woman to make her home in New Chester, and their fifth child, Isaac, born Aug. 24, 1768, was the first white child born in the town. In 1773, or earlier, Cutting Favor sent a petition to the New Chester proprietors to be allowed to purchase the island in the Pemigewasset opposite his land, which he said contained at that time, about eighteen acres. In this petition he states that his was the second family that moved into the new plantation.<sup>1</sup> In this paper he must have alluded to John Tolford, Jr., spoken of above.

Cutting Favor was evidently a man of means for those days. He bought large tracts of land in New Chester, and among his purchases after his settlement was that of Lot 76, which adjoined his home lot on the north. He also made large purchases on the east side of the river, in New Hampton, his land extending a mile from the Pemigewasset. He erected the first saw-mill within the limits of Hill. This stood where the railroad now crosses the brook just north of his home and about a mile south of Smith's river. The dam was on the west side of the highway, and the water to turn the overshot wheel was conducted over the road in a spout. He later added a grist-mill, and these two mills did service for many years.

Benjamin Emmons was the first permanent settler within the limits of Bristol. July 13, 1767, he purchased of Samuel Emerson, for four pounds, ninety acres—Lot 50, First Division, and soon after set out from his home in Sandown for his new possession in the woods of New Chester. The journey was made on foot and alone, with a pack on his back containing provisions, ax in hand, and his faithful dog by his side. Arriving at his destination, he made of hemlock bark a camp as a temporary shelter. At the two ends of this camp he drove into the ground two willow posts to support the roof. These posts sprouted and grew, and became the two immense trees that stood for many years by the wayside nearly in front of the present residence on this farm. They disappeared, by reason of old age, only a few years ago, but the roots are still there, marking the spot where the first settler in Bristol made his temporary home. Here he commenced to fell the trees and clear the land on what

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<sup>1</sup>*State Papers*, Vol. 27, p. 347.

is still known as the Emmons farm, and which is still owned and occupied by his descendants.

Nov. 15, 1771, Benjamin Emmons purchased, of John Tolford, Lot 49, containing one hundred acres adjoining his first purchase on the east, and of David Sleeper Lot 51 on the west, so that his farm consisted of two hundred and eighty acres. His first log house, which was probably built the second season of his stay here, was on the lower side of the highway. The chimney was not made of stone, after the general custom of those days, but of brick made by himself from clay near at hand. About once in six weeks, Benjamin Emmons went to Boscawen, renewed his stock of provisions and returned to his task of clearing the land for tillage. Visitors were few and there was but little to break the monotony of life; but one morning as he opened his eyes an Indian stood at the opening of his camp and was looking in upon him, but finally walked away without uttering a word. The following winter found him at his old home in Sandown; but as spring came he resumed work on his land. This season he planted fields of rye and corn, but the bears made sad havoc with his growing crops. In the fall of this season, while on one of his trips to Boscawen, his "neighbors" in Bridgewater, seven men in all, came down to visit him, and found seven bears in his cornfield.

April 6, 1769, Benjamin Emmons married Elizabeth Fellows of Sandown, and bride and groom at once started for their new home—the log house which Mr. Emmons had erected in the New Chester woods. It is probable that they brought with them a cow and a yoke of oxen, and such household articles as could be transported over the rough roads or trails through the woods. Feb. 20, 1770, a son came to gladden their home, whom they named Samuel. He was the first white child born within the limits of Bristol.

The same year that Cutting Favor settled in Hill, 1766, Thomas Crawford, Jr., is credited, by tradition, with a settlement in Bridgewater. June 21, of this year, while a resident of Hampstead and only nineteen years old, he purchased four hundred acres of land in Bridgewater including Lots 9, 20, 5, and 3. Settlement was made on Lot 9, now the farm of Sherman S. Fletcher. He probably commenced to clear the land the same season, and it is thus claimed of him that he settled in Bridgewater in 1766. April 7, 1768, his father, Thomas Crawford, of Hampstead, purchased and settled on Lot 8; and Robert Crawford of Sandown settled on Lots 6 and 7 the same season. In 1769, Jonathan Crawford of Chester settled on Lots 11 and 12. In 1771, Jonathan Crawford is credited with having five acres of land improved; Thomas Crawford, Jr., with having seven acres; and Robert Crawford, fifteen. John Mitchell was evidently the second settler in Bridgewater, having settled on Lot 1, next

to the Plymouth line, in 1767. In 1771, he had fifteen acres of land improved. These settlers were in that part of New Chester now Bridgewater, and in the first division of lots, the home or river lots as they were called.

Peter Sleeper was the first settler within the limits of Bristol village. In the summer of 1768, he commenced to clear Lot 63, First Division, belonging to his father, David Sleeper, who, though not one of the original proprietors, owned large tracts of land in this township. Peter Sleeper's father gave him a deed to this lot May 29, 1769. This was considered a good start in life in those days. Peter Sleeper built his first habitation, a log hut, where Mrs. S. S. Southard now resides, and here he spent most of his time, in hard work, till the fall of 1771, when he brought his family here. His wife rode horseback all the way from their old home in Sandown, carrying in her arms her infant, born July 29, before. Peter Sleeper had at this time six or eight acres of land in tillage. Some years later he built a large, two-story square frame house, one of the first in town, in what is now Mrs. Southard's dooryard on High street. Here he kept tavern for many years.

Previous to Peter Sleeper's settlement with his family, a grist-mill and a saw-mill had been erected where is now the pulp-mill of the Train-Smith Co., and in 1769 John Kidder came from Bedford to Bristol for the purpose of tending this mill. He moved into a small log house, at the corner of Central square and Spring street, that had been erected for his reception. This was a very small and rude affair for a family of five. There was only one room, and on each side of the fireplace stood what served for chairs during the day and beds at night. Stout poles were driven into augur holes in the logs to support one end, and the other rested on posts set in the ground. On the horizontal pieces poles and boughs were placed, as the foundations for the beds. John Kidder resided here and continued in charge of the mill three or four years, when he purchased the land now constituting the Fred Kidder farm, and removed there.

Gideon Sleeper came from Sandown to New Chester to make a settlement one year later than his brother Peter. He selected Lot 62, adjoining his brother's lot on the north, and built a log house on the Fred H. Briggs place on High street. He married and brought his wife here soon after Peter came with his family; and here three or four children were born. About 1784, he removed to Grafton, where he spent the remainder of his days, and where some of his descendants are still living.

Joshua Tolford, of Chester, settled on the bank of Smith's river in 1769. He was one of the few original proprietors who settled in the new township. One of his lots was No. 66, First



Division, on the Pemigewasset about where George Price resides. Lot 71 included the falls of Smith's river, and was reserved for a mill lot, and the adjoining lot on the south, 72, was held in common by the proprietors. In 1766, Joshua Tolford proposed to the proprietors that they deed him Lot 72, or exchange it for Lot 66, and he would engage to build mills on the stream.<sup>1</sup> The exchange was made; but Joshua Tolford made no attempt to carry out his part of the agreement in the erection of mills. May 19, 1767, Maj. John Tolford entered into an agreement with the proprietors to erect mills on Newfound river, as elsewhere stated, and mills on Smith's river within six years from that date. Maj. Tolford appears to have sold his rights in Lot 71 to Joshua Tolford, as the latter settled on this lot and in 1771 had ten acres of land "improved" and six acres of forest "cut" in addition, and in the fall of 1773 was taxed for a saw-mill. He did not long remain in town, however, but removed a few miles west and settled at what is now known as Clarke's corner in Alexandria. Here he spent the balance of his life.

The year 1770 saw the addition of several families to the new settlement. It appears that Carr Huse settled in what is now Hill village, on Lot 90, and was the first settler there. Tradition gives him second place in the settlement of that part of New Chester now Hill, and this claim seems to be well taken. This man was destined to have a more important part in the development of the new town than any other, and his public spirit and interest in the town is seen throughout his long and active life.

Very soon after, Jacob Heath settled just north of Carr Huse, on Lots 88 and 89; Henry Wells, of Chester, settled on the lot next south, 91; while Jeremiah Quimby settled a little farther to the north, on Lots 79 and 82.

Robert Forsaith came this same year from Chester. He married Margaret, a daughter of Dea. William Tolford, of Chester, and settled on Lots 73 and 74, later known as the Peaslee place, now owned and occupied by William C. Kelley, south of Smith's river. The history of Chester says that after five children were born to them in New Chester they returned to Chester, where four more children were born. If this be so, he again became a resident of New Chester, as he was here in 1800, and apparently then resided on this same farm, and here he died in 1810.

All the settlements thus far mentioned as being made in 1770 were in that part of New Chester now Hill. Within the limits of Bristol, Moses Worthen, of Sandown, settled on what is still known as the Worthen farm, about one-half mile north-east of Central square. Indeed, there is some evidence to show

<sup>1</sup>*State Papers*, Vol. 27, p. 341.

that he was here even earlier than this, as he purchased his land, one-half of Lot 59, of Joshua Tolford, originally drawn by Matthew Thornton, Nov. 17, 1768. Ebenezer Ingalls, of Sandown, settled on the next lot to the east, 58, for many years known as the Oren Nelson place; Tom Locke, a great bear hunter, settled on Lot 56, where Solon Dolloff now resides; Lieut. Joseph Basford, on Lot 55; Chase Fuller made a settlement on Lot 47, just east of the Heath burying-ground; while Josiah Heath, of Atkinson, and Peter Heath joined the settlers of Bridgewater on Lots 11 and 14, respectively.

In the spring of 1771, Jonathan Ingalls settled between the land of his brother, Ebenezer, and that of Tom Locke, on what has been known for many years as the Abel Danforth farm. He felled two acres of timber that season. His log house was on the east side of Danforth brook, and on the south side of the highway.

On the 27th of September, of this year, Samuel Worthen purchased, of Joshua Tolford, the westerly half of Lot 59; his father, Moses Worthen, being the owner of the easterly half of the same lot. In the deed of conveyance he is spoken of as "Samuel Worthen, of New Chester, blacksmith." Samuel Worthen is supposed to have been born in 1748, and tradition says he did not come to Bristol with his father, but he was evidently a resident at this time. In 1776, he purchased his father's half of their lot, and subsequently became a large owner of real estate, including the Robinson farm in New Hampton. It was from him that Worthen's rock, in the Pemigewasset, took its name, which it still retains. He continued to reside on the Worthen farm till his death, in 1821, and there he reared a large and distinguished family.

Capt. John Underhill, of Chester, one of the proprietors, erected a log cabin this season, and felled two or three acres of timber, on the west bank of the Pemigewasset, north of the Pemigewasset bridge; but he appears to have made no settlement. David Emerson made a settlement on Lot 94, next to the Franklin line.

During the year 1773, there was a marked increase in the number of inhabitants in the new town. Among them was Joseph Sanborn, of Hawk<sup>1</sup>, who, Mar. 3, of this year, purchased of Edward Eastman Lot 75, adjoining Cutting Favor's land on the north. His name appears on the tax-list of October, so it seems probable that he made his settlement here in the spring of this year. This lot was originally drawn by Timothy Ingalls. Alexander McClure had eight or ten acres cut on this lot, in 1771, for himself or some other party, but this work was probably done to hasten its sale. Mr. Sanborn was apparently the first settler here, and here he rounded out seventy years of wedded life and died in 1841. Nason Cass settled on Lot 81,

<sup>1</sup> Now Fremont.

the third south of Cutting Favor's; Nathaniel Sanborn, on Lot 93, the second from the Franklin line; Jacob Wells, on Lot 88; Tilton Bennett, on Lot 87. Another settler in Hill, between 1771 and 1773, was James Moulton. In what is now Bridgewater, Edmond Eastman settled on what is known as the Andrew J. West farm; Andrew Craige settled on Lot 27. Other settlers in Bridgewater this year were John Clark, David Cross, and Jonathan Morgan.

John Smith came this year from Bedford, and settled on the north bank of Smith's river. Later he became the proprietor of the mills there, and operated them for many years. This same year Nathan Sleeper settled near Tom Locke's, or between Solon Dolloff's and the H. N. Emmons place. This was not the Nathan who was for many years a resident of Bristol, but may have been a younger brother of Peter and Gideon. If so, he was at this time only 18 years of age, and like many other young men of those days had selected land and was preparing for himself a home. Color is given to this supposition from the fact that Nathan, the brother of Peter, died in 1775, and this name disappears from the records of New Chester at this time, and does not appear again till Nathan, the son of Peter, comes upon the scene.

In 1774, Abner Fellows settled where H. N. Emmons now resides. He had assisted in moving his daughter, Mrs. Benj. Emmons, to her new home after her marriage, and was so favorably impressed with the country on the north bank of the Pemigewasset that he resolved to locate there himself. He sold his "home place" in Sandown in January, 1773, and May 26, following, purchased Lot 53, and in October, following, Lot 54, in New Chester. His cabin stood where H. N. Emmons's residence now stands. He was at this time about 50 years of age and here he spent the remainder of his life. A large number of his descendants are now residents of this town.

All the settlements thus far made were in the first division of lots, called the river lots, being on the bank of the Pemigewasset river, extending from Lot 1, next to the Plymouth line, to Lot No. 94, next to the Franklin line, a distance of more than nineteen miles.

In 1774, Lieut. Thomas Wells and his brother, Reuben, settled on Lot 64, Fourth Division; while Benj. McAllister, Josiah Fellows, and Gershon Fletcher were also added to the tax-list this year, the last three being settlers in what is now Bridgewater.

During the Revolutionary war, settlers came in slowly, business being so thoroughly paralyzed by the war that even the settlement of the new towns was retarded. During 1775 and 1776 only two new names were added to the settlers—Ebenezer Kenfield, in Hill, and William Palmer, in Bridgewater.

In 1777, John Bussell became a settler on Lot 84, First Divi-



sion. Wm. and John Corless and Simeon Sanborn are also new names this year; in Hill; while Oliver Smith Blake appears as a settler on the Caleb Clay farm in the Nelson neighborhood in Bristol. Jacob Spofford, Joseph Haskill, Joseph Cass, and John Ladd appear as new names on the tax-list this year in that part of the old town now Bridgewater.

Daniel Heath came from Hampstead, in 1779, and settled in Bristol on what has been known from that time till the present as the Heath farm. John Emmons, a brother of Benjamin, had preceded Heath on this farm, but after a few months sold his interest to Heath and removed to Murray hill. Daniel Heath was somewhat advanced in life at this time, and died in 1788 (?) while on a business trip to the northern part of the state. He was succeeded by his brother Stephen, and he by his brother Samuel, in 1794; and this farm still remains in the hands of his descendants.

Moses Sleeper, of Sandown, settled in Bristol village in 1779. He first occupied the "mill house," at the corner of Central square and Spring street, while he built a log house on the site of the town-house. While residing in this latter place he built the dwelling on the north side of Central square, occupied for many years as a tavern, later by Dea. William Green, and now by Dea. Green's daughters. John Sleeper, a brother, came about the same time, and built his first cabin on North Main street, where David M. Chase now resides, at the base of Sugar hill. In 1800, he built the "tannery house" at the junction of Willow with Lake street. Maj. Theophilus Sanborn settled on New Chester mountain this year, just south of where Mrs. John W. Sanborn now resides; John Cleveland came from Connecticut and settled on the west side of the highway just south of Oliver Smith Blake in the Nelson neighborhood; and Jonathan Merrill settled at Profile Falls.

In that part of New Chester now Hill, the following appear to have settled in 1778 or 1779: Philip Rowell, Lot 89, First Division; William Bennett, Lot 85, First Division; Nathaniel Bartlett, Lot 43, Third Division; Nathan Colby, Amos Stephen, Phineas Sargent, Reuben Keezer, Ebenezer Wells, and William Murray; in Bridgewater, Simeon Cross, Lot 27, First Division; Jonathan Cross, Lot 28, First Division, and Ephraim Webster.

About 1780, Meshach Gurdy settled just north of Smith's river, near where the railroad now is, coming from Sandown. During the next few years his two sons, Samuel and Jacob, cleared land in what was afterwards known as the Locke neighborhood, to which they removed later, Samuel settling on the Otis Sanborn farm and Jacob on the Samuel Muzzey farm. In 1780, Asa Hastings settled on the Hastings farm, coming from Alexandria. In 1781, Sherburn Tilton came from Sandown, bought the mill lot in Bristol village, and built a log cabin where



is now the harness shop of Frank W. Bingham, on the east side of South Main street a few rods south of the river. Tom Fuller came this year and made a home on the south side of New Chester mountain, near the Sleeper burying-ground, on the old road over the mountain. About the same time, or as early as 1782, Daniel Sleeper settled on the hillside east of Newfound lake, on the Laura R. Mitchell farm. Ebenezer Ingalls removed to New Hampton about this time; and his brother, Jonathan, succeeded him on the Oren Nelson farm. The Danforth farm, vacated by Jonathan Ingalls, was now occupied by a new comer, Michael Moshier; while new settlers, among them William Powell and Jonathan Tirrell, made their homes in the Locke neighborhood.

As has been seen, a few of the settlers had pushed back from the main road along the Pemigewasset into the interior of the town. A trail, the forerunner of a road, was extended into what is now the Hall neighborhood, as far as Oliver Smith Blake's new home. From John Kidder's a trail extended to the Locke neighborhood, from there westerly, passing Bristol Peak, down the hill to Daniel Sleeper's farm, and thence to the lake. Another trail led from the Locke neighborhood north to the site of the Bridgewater meeting-house, and others to the main road near the Pemigewasset river. Along these trails, settlers made their homes, until this was the most thickly settled part of the town. Here, in 1785, Samuel Drew was a new settler, coming from Plymouth. Here a little later came Stephen Thurston Brown, also from Plymouth. In 1780, when only 15 years of age, Benjamin Locke came to town from Sandown, making his home for three years with his uncle, Tom Locke. At the end of that time he shouldered a pack of provisions, and, with ax in hand, penetrated the wilderness seven miles, and located on Bridgewater hill. He there built a hut and cleared land for a home; but after spending a year or two in that lonely retreat, constantly annoyed by bears and other wild animals, he sold, and settled in the neighborhood that was later to take his name; where he commenced life in a log cabin of two rooms that stood near where the schoolhouse now stands. His bride was the daughter of the first settler in New Chester. Such men as these gave the neighborhood a name that is still fragrant to all lovers of sturdy, upright manhood.

## CHAPTER VI

### THE ORGANIZATION OF NEW CHESTER, ITS INCORPORATION AND ITS DIVISION

Look now abroad—another race has filled  
These populous borders—wide the wood recedes,  
And towns shoot up, and fertile realms are tilled ;  
The land is full of harvests and green meads.

—*Bryant.*

In 1773, the number of voters in the new township had become so large that the questions of a town organization, the election of town officers, and the raising of taxes for internal improvements had become important ones. These questions were hastened by the indifference of the proprietors. These men were not entirely pleased that more settlements had not been made, that the sales of land had been so few, and that the consequent rise in the value of real estate had not met their expectations. They were, therefore, slow to vote appropriations for making roads for building meeting-houses, or clearing public lots. Indeed, from the first, they neglected to do many things they had agreed to do to hasten the settlement of the new town.

These things made the settlers more anxious to assist themselves, and the general assembly was, therefore, asked this season to organize the town. The assembly responded favorably by authorizing Col. John Goff<sup>1</sup> to proceed to New Chester and warn the legal voters to meet at a given day and place for the election of town officers. This Col. Goff did, and on the day and hour named he again appeared, called the meeting to order and presided with all the dignity of a man calling a new town into being. Joshua Toliord, Esq., was elected clerk. It seems that Mr. Tolford, though a man above the average in general intelligence, had no conception of the importance of preserving the records of this meeting. At least, he furnished none for the use of the town, and the only knowledge we have of what was done that day comes from the pen of Carr Huse, in the following document which he wrote in 1822 :

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<sup>1</sup>Col. John Goff was born in Boston, in 1801, and settled at Goff's Falls. He was a man of commanding presence and was an able military officer. He commanded a scouting party of 44 men in 1746; was an officer under Gen. Webb at Albany in 1757; commanded a New Hampshire regiment against Canada in 1760; and was at Ticonderoga in 1761. He was a member of the Committee of Safety of Bedford in 1778. He died about 1787.

Carr Huse Taking in to Consideration the uncertainty of Life, have thought proper for the Benefit of the inhabitants of New Chester to make known to the inhabitants how the Town was made active or organized to enjoy the privileges as other Towns in the State Do enjoy. in the year 1773 Col. John Goff was appointed by the General Assembly of this State to Notify and warn the inhabitants of New Chester to assemble, and meet at Some suitable place in said Town in order to Choose Town officers and Col. Goff Notified the inhabitants of the intention to meet on a certain Day at the Dwelling House of Cutting Favour in New Chester on said Day at a certain hour and the inhabitants assembled agreeable to notification and Col Goff presided as Moderator and opened the Meeting and Joshua Tolford Esq was Chosen Town Clerk and was sworn to that office Thomas Crawford Jr Cutting Favour and Carr Huse were Chosen Assessors and were sworn to that office and Peter Sleeper was Chosen Constable or Collector and sworn to that office and high way Surveyors were Chosen and Sworn to office and the assessors made the Taxes and Committed the Taxes to the Collector agreeable to the Precepts with a warrant and the Collector Collected the Taxes and paid them over agreeable to his warrant and settled with the assessors and the assessors in 1774 Notified and warned the inhabitants of New Chester to meet on a certain Day in march for the purpose of Choosing Town officers for the year ensuing and the inhabitants mett agreeable to Notification and the Meeting was opened and a Moderator was Chosen and Carr Huse was Chosen Town Clerk and in a short time was Sworn to office and all other Town officers as will appear recorded on the Town Book No. 1 and Carr Huse the Town Clerk Called repeatedly on Joshua Tolford Esq for the Records for the year 1773 but never could recover them of him and as the Records now stands recorded no one man will be able to make known Fifty years hence how the Town was made active to act as a Town and the above named Carr Huse is sensible as he is one of the oldest Settlers in the Town and is willing to Do all the good that lays in his power to Do for the Town and as it is necessary that Some thing Should be Done with Regard for that years record if the Town will vote or consent that he Shall have the Town Book No 1 and enter this Beginning of the Book as there is room left Suffisient and the Taxes with the warrant annexed thereto, as that Book is all or the major part of his writing he will Do it and as soon as he can as he has the coppies of the Taxes and warrant in his possession and return the Book to the Town Clerk. Carr Huse.

New Chester March 2d 1822

To the Select Men of New Chester.

Surely every one interested in the history of New Chester, and the towns carved from it, has reason to be grateful to Carr Huse for his thoughtfulness in writing this paper and thus preserving from oblivion a part of the doings of this first town meeting, as well as for many other acts of his long and useful career in town.

As will be noted, the exact date of this first town meeting is not stated. It must, however, have been in the early fall following the adjournment of the assembly, as the inventory was taken by the assessors elected at this meeting and placed in the hands of Peter Sleeper, the constable or collector, Oct. 13, of that year.

We present here the first inventory of the town, taken presumably in September, 1773:—

	Heads	Oxen	3 years	2 years	1 year	Horses	Cows	Acres Land	
David Emerson	1	0	—	—	—	—	2	1	
Nathaniel Sanborn	1	0	—	—	—	—	1	11-2	
Henry Wells	1	0	2	—	—	—	1	21-2	
Carr Huse	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	4	
Jacob Heath	1	0	—	1	—	—	0	11-2	
Jacob Wells	1	0	—	—	—	—	1	1-2	
Tilton Bennett	1	0	—	1	—	—	1	—	
Nason Cass	1	2	—	1	—	1	3	1-2	
Jeremiah Quimby	1	0	—	—	—	—	3	5	
Cutting Favor	1	2	—	1	—	—	2	12	
James Moulton	1	0	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Joseph Sanborn	1	0	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Robert Forsaith	1	0	2	—	1	—	2	8	
Joshua Tolford, Esq.	1	2	—	1	3	—	1	5	1 saw mill
Peter Sleeper	1	0	—	3	—	—	1	5	
Gideon Sleeper	1	0	2	—	—	—	2	6	
John Kidder	1	0	—	—	—	—	1	—	grist mill 3 s
Moses Worthen	1	0	—	—	—	—	1	1	
Samuel Worthen	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ebenezer Ingalls	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	
Jonathan Ingalls	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	1-2	
Thos. Locke	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	
Benjamin Emmons	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	6	
Chase Fuller	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	
Edmond Eastman	1	0	0	—	0	0	1	6	
Nathan Sleeper	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	—	new
John Smith	1	0	1	—	—	1	—	—	
David Cross	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
John Mitchell									Inventory torn off from here.
Thos. Crawford									
Peter Heath									
Thos. Crawford, Jr.									
Jonth. Crawford									
Josiah Heath									
John Clark									
Andrew Cragie									
Jonth. Morgan									

A part of the above inventory is missing; but the list of names is complete, showing that there were at this time thirty-seven taxpayers in town, and enough of the inventory remains to show the extreme poverty of the people. It will be noted that only two horses and five yoke of oxen were taxed, as being owned by the twenty-eight persons first named, and five of these persons had no cow. The total taxes assessed amounted to two pounds, five shillings and eight pence.



The following is a copy of the warrant for the annual town meeting in March, 1774, and the record of the proceedings as made by the town clerk. This official, however, did not sign his record.

Province of New Hampshire.

Grafton SS.

These are to Notify and Warn the Freeholders and other Inhabitants in the Town of New Chester Qualified By Law to Vote to Assemble and Meet at the Dwelling House of Mr Jonathan Ingalls in S<sup>d</sup> New Chester on Tuesday the twenty Second Day of March next at ten of the Clock in the Forenoon To Act on the Following Articles (Viz)

- 1<sup>ly</sup> To Chuse a Moderator to Govern Said Meeting
- 2<sup>dly</sup> To Chuse a Town Clerk
- 3<sup>dly</sup> To Chuse assessors for the year ensuing
- 4<sup>thly</sup> To Chuse a Collector for the year Ensuing
- 5<sup>thly</sup> To Chuse any other Town officers or to act upon any other thing that is Proper or thought Necessary Given under our hands at New Chester this twenty fifth day of February 1774

Carr Huse } Assessors For  
Cutting Favor } New Chester

At a Legal Meeting Held this twenty Second Day of March, 1774, in New Chester at the Dwelling House of Jonathan Ingalls

- 1<sup>stly</sup> Nason Cass was Chosen Moderator For to Govern S<sup>d</sup> Meeting
- 2<sup>dly</sup> Carr Huse was Chosen Town Clerk for the year Ensuing and Sworn
- 3<sup>dly</sup> Carr Huse was Chosen an Assessor for the year Ensuing and was Sworn
- 4<sup>thly</sup> Peter Sleeper was Chosen an Assessor for the year Ensuing and was Sworn
- 5<sup>thly</sup> Thomas Crawford Jr was Chosen an Assessor For the year Ensuing & was Sworn
- 6<sup>thly</sup> Robert Forsaith was Chosen Collector for the year Ensuing and was Sworn
- 7<sup>thly</sup> Andrew Craige was Chosen a Surveyor of high ways For the year Ensuing & was Sworn
- 8<sup>thly</sup> Jonathan Crawford was Chosen a Surveyor of high ways For the year Ensuing & was Sworn
- 9<sup>thly</sup> Benjamin Emmons was Chosen a Surveyor of high ways for the year Ensuing & was Sworn
- 10<sup>thly</sup> Ebenezer Ingalls was Chosen a Surveyor of high ways for the year Ensuing & was Sworn
- 11<sup>th</sup> Robert Forsaith was Chosen a Surveyor of high ways for the year Ensuing & was Sworn
- 12<sup>th</sup> Henry Wells was Chosen a Surveyor of high ways for the year Ensuing & was Sworn

At the annual meeting, March 21, 1775, it was "Voted that the Assessors Shall Take the Money that is in Lieut. Robert Forsaith's hands if there is Enough For to Buy a Town Book and a Juror Box."

The subject of the incorporation of the town began to be agitated soon after its organization. The question was whether it should be incorporated as one town or two. These early settlers could easily foresee that the whole of the township was destined to

be settled; and there was a sentiment among the more intelligent that in time two towns would be carved from its territory, and that it would be wiser to create two towns at the time of its incorporation than at some subsequent date. Naturally, the sentiment in favor of a division was stronger before the incorporation of the town than afterwards, when the number of the inhabitants had largely increased and the town had existed harmoniously for a few years.

The desire for incorporation culminated in a town meeting held May 20, 1776, at the house of Jonathan Ingalls, who resided just east of Danforth brook. The second article in the warrant was "To See if the Inhabitants of Sd Town will agree to have the Town Incorporated." The following is a copy of the record of the town on this point:

Voted that the Town Should be Incorporated.

Voted that the Town should Be incorporated into two Towns.

Voted that the Town Should Bee Divided at the North East Corner of Lot No. 56<sup>1</sup> at Pemagisawassett River & So Running upon Sd Line till it Shall Strike New Found pond & So Including all the Land upon the South Side of Sd pond to the Lower Town.

Nov. 20, 1776, another town meeting was held at the house of Jonathan Ingalls "To See if the Town Inhabitants will agree to Petition to the General Court For to have Sd Town Ship Incorporated in to two Distinct Towns allowing Newfound River To Be the Dividing Line between Sd Towns." At this meeting it was

Voted That New Chester Should Be Incorporated into Two Distinct Towns & Newfound Pond River to Be the Dividing Line Between Sd Towns.

The next month the following petition was signed by twenty-three of the legal voters of the town, and presented to The Honorable Council and House of Representatives:

To the Honourable Council and House of Representatives of the Colony of New Hampshire

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the Township of New Chester Wee the Inhabitants of Sd N. Chester Do Labour under many Grievances and disadvantages for want of an In Corporation whereby wee might have officers Endowed with Power and Authority as other Towns in this Colony Do Enjoy We therefore Humbly Pray your Honours to Grant us a Charter of In Corporation--Investing us with the Powers Priviledges and Authorities as Other Towns within this Colony have it is the desire of your Humble Petitioners that the Sd Township may Be In Corporated into two Distinct Towns if your Honours Please, By Reason of the Township being Very Long, which will abundantly Best Accomodate the Inhabitants of Sd Town Ship, it is desired that Sd Towns may Be Divided at New Found River So Called Allowing the upper Towns to

<sup>1</sup> Just east of Solon Dolloff's land.

inClude the privileges for mills upon S<sup>d</sup> River within the Limits of S<sup>d</sup> Town, and your Humble Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray

N. Chester December 24th 1776

Jonathan Crawford	Robert Crawford	Benj McAllester
Josah heath	Nason Cass	Robt Forsith
Thos Crawford Junr	John Mitchell	Beniemin Emery
John Clark	gideon Sleeper	Carr Huse
Cutting favour	Reuben Wells	David Emerson
Jonathan Ingalls	John Smith	Joshua Tolford
Joseph Sanborn	Nathaniel Sanborn	Tilton Bennett
Jacob wells	John Bussell	

This paper contained the names of more than a majority of all the voters in town ; but for some reason the legislature did not act on the petition. At the next annual town meeting, this question was, therefore, again considered, and the vote of the town was still in favor of the incorporation of the territory of New Chester into two townships. In October of that year, 1778, another petition was sent to the General Court which read as follows :

To the General Court of the State of New Hampshire—

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the Township of New Chester. Wee the Inhabitants of S<sup>d</sup> Township Do Labor under Many Grievances and Disadvantages for Want of an Incorporation whereby wee might have officers endowed with Power and authority and that wee might Lay out our highways So that wee Might make and Repair them So that travilers might Safely travel, or pass through the Town Ship saifly for want of which wee are Sensible Some of your Honours are sensible of and many more Difficulties which wee labor under, we therefore Hunbly Pray your Honours to Grant us a Charter of Incorporation Investing us with the Powers Privileges and authorities as other Towns within this State Do Enjoy and your Humble Petitioners as in Duety Bound Shall Ever Pray

New Chester October 15<sup>th</sup> 1778

It is Desired that the Town May Be Incorporated By the name of New Chester

Carr Huse	Jacob wells	Tilton Bennet
Cutting favour	Abner fellows	John Emery
Chase fuller	Beniamin Emons	Ebenr Ingalls
thomas Lock	Samuel Worthen	Jonathan Ingalls
Jonathan Crawford	Simeon Cross	Jesiah heath
moses Worthen	Theophilus Sanborn	Peter Sleeper
Gideon Sleeper	John Cleaveland	John Kidder
John Bussell	Nathaniel Sanborn	

This petition, as will be observed, made no reference to the division of the town, and this fact may have accounted for the more prompt and favorable action of the legislature at this time. However this may be, an act of incorporation was passed Nov. 20, 1878, and Carr Huse was authorized to call the first town meeting. The charter reads as follows :

In the year of our Lord one thousand Seven Hundred & Seventy Eight  
State of New Hampshire.

AN ACT to Incorporate a place called New Chester in the County of Grafton.

WHEREAS a Petition has been proffered to the General Court in behalf of the Inhabitants of a Tract of Land called New Chester in the County of Grafton setting forth that they Labour under great inconveniences for want of an incorporation & praying that they may be incorporated of which public notice has been given & no Objection has been made.

Be it therefore Enacted by the Council & house of Representatives in General Court assembled & by the authority of the same that there be, and hereby is a Township Erected & incorporated by the name of New Chester. Bounded Northerly on Plymouth, Westerly on Alexandria & Hiedelbourg, Southerly by New Britton & Easterly on Pemigewasset River including all the Islands in said River against said Tract. And the Inhabitants of said tract are hereby erected into a body Politic & Corporate to have continuance and Succession forever, and invested with all the powers & enfranchised with all the Rights privileges and Immunities which any Town in this State holds and enjoys To hold to the said Inhabitants and their Successors for ever.

And Karr Hughes is hereby authorized to call a meeting of said Inhabitants to chuse all necessary and Customary Town Officers giving Fourteen days notice of the Time and place & design of such meeting and the Officers then chosen shall hereby be invested with all the power of such Officers as in any Other Town in this State, and every other meeting which shall be annually held in said Town for that purpose shall be on the Third Monday of March forever.

State of New Hampshire.

In the House of Representatives November 13th, 1778 The foregoing Bill having been Read a Third Time. Voted that the Same pass to be Enacted. Sent up for concurrence.

John Langdon, Speaker.

This charter embraced all the territory acquired by purchase by the New Chester proprietors, Sept. 14, 1753, shown in a previous chapter, and included the present towns of Hill, Bristol, and Bridgewater, except a small portion south of Smith's river which was transferred from Alexandria to New Chester, Dec. 20, 1820. It also included a small portion set off to Wilmot, Dec. 21, 1832, and another strip set off to Danbury, June 26, 1858.

On the 27th day of January, 1779, Carr Huse issued the call for the first town meeting under the charter, which is here given :

State of New Hampshire Grafton SS

Where as an Act of Incorporation By the General Court of Sd. State have been granted to the Town of New Chester Bearing Date November the 13th 1778 Authorizing Me the Subscriber To Call the first Meeting To Chuse all Necessary and Customary Town Officers Giving Fourteen Days Notis of the Time and Place and Design of Such Meeting.

These are therefore to Notify and Warn all the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of New Chester to Assemble and Meet at the Dwelling house of Mr. Abner Fellows in New Chester on Monday the



15th Day of March next Ensuing at Eleven of the Clock in the forenoon of Sd. Day

- 1ly To Chuse a Moderator to Regulate Sd. Meeting
- 2ly To Chuse a Town Clerk For the year ensuing
- 3ly To Chuse a Constable or Collector For the year Ensuing
- 4ly To Chuse Select men for the year ensuing.
- 5ly To Chuse Surveyors of Highways For the year Ensuing.
- 6ly To See what Sum of Money the Town will Vote to Be Raised and Laid out For Preaching in the Town the year Ensuing
- 7ly To See if the Town will Chuse a Committee for to Lay out and Return highways throughout the Town that are necessary.
- 8ly To See what Sum of Money the Town will Raise towards Clearing highways and Repairing of them the year ensuing.
- 9ly To See what money the Town will Raise for Schooling the year Ensuing.
- 10ly To Chuse all other Town Officers or to Act upon any other thing that is wanting or necessary.

Given under my hand at New Chester this twenty Seventh Day of February 1779

Carr Huse

The copy of the act of incorporation sent Carr Huse was, by a singular oversight, incomplete, in that it did not contain any reference to the action of the Senate, and it did not appear that the chief executive of the state had given the act his approval. Carr Huse evidently did not notice this irregularity and supposed the date of incorporation to be Nov. 13, when the act passed the House, and so stated in his warrant, whereas the actual date of incorporation was Nov. 20. However, the meeting was held, and business was transacted; and the town has continued for one hundred and twenty-five years without any serious consequences by reason of this error in the calling of this first town meeting. The record of this first meeting was as follows:

At an annual and Legal Meeting Held at the house of Mr. Abner Fellows in New Chester Firstly Abner Fellows was Chosen Moderator to Regulate Sd Meeting

Secondly Carr Huse was Chosen Town Clerk for the Year Ensuing and is Sworn

Thirdly Nason Cass was Chosen Constable for the year Ensuing

Fourthly Carr Huse was Chosen a Selectman for the Year Ensuing Thomas Crawford Jr. was Chosen a Selectman for the Year Ensuing Lieut Peter Sleeper was Chosen a Selectman for the year Ensuing and were all Sworn

Fifthly Jacob Wells Cutting Favour Theophilus Sanborn Chase Fuller & Jonathan Crawford each and all were Chosen Surverors of high ways for the Year Ensuing and were Sworn

Sixthly Voted to Chuse a Committee For to Lay out and Return high ways through the Town that are necessary

Seventhly Capt Cutting Favour Lieut Robert Forsaith and Lieut Peter Sleeper was Chosen a Committee for the Lower End of the Town to Lay out and Return high ways Thomas Crawford Jr Ensign Benjamin Emons and Jonathan Crawford were Chosen a Committee for the uper End For to Lay out and Return high ways through the Town that are Necessary for the present year

Eightly Voted to Raise two thousand Dollars to Be workt out upon the highways for the present year

Ninthly Voted that Men should have one pound ten shillings per Day for Labour upon the high ways for the present year

Tenthly Thomas Lock and Chase Fuller were Chosen Deep Keepers for the present year

Eleventh Thomas Crawford Jr. Nathanael Sandborn and Jonathan Ingals were Chosen Hog Reafs for the present year

Twelveth Voted to Chuse two men as a Committee For to Go to Clerk Joshua Tolford to Git a Coppy of all that was acted Concerning Building and Keeping Mills on Newfound River<sup>1</sup>

Thirteenth Mr. Abner Fellows and Capt. Cutting Favour were Chosen a Committee for that purpose

This meeting is adjourned until the First wednesday in April next Ensuing at Mr. Abner Fellows at ten of the Clock in the forenoon

Met agreeable to the adjournment and proceeded as follows (viz)

Firstly Capt. Cutting Favour was Chosen Cunstable for the year Ensuing and was Sworn

Secondly Jonathan Merrill was Chosen Town Treasurer for the year Ensuing

This meeting is Dissolved

Carr Huse Town Clerk

At the next annual town meeting, in 1779, the most notable vote was to raise four thousand dollars for highways and to pay fifteen dollars per day for labor on the highways. In explanation of this vote it should be said that the currency then in use was worth but a few cents on the dollar. One year later, when the money of the Colonies was on a more substantial basis, only \$400 was raised for highways, and the laborer was paid but fifty cents per day for his work.

At a meeting held at the house of Abner Fellows, Mar. 18, 1782, David Emerson, Nason Cass, and Abner Fellows were chosen a committee "for to call the former Selectmen and Constables to account and make settlement." This vote does not imply any wrong doing on the part of the officers named or lack of confidence in them. This committee was elected each year and acted as auditors, and had authority to settle the selectmen's accounts. A few years later it became the custom for the selectmen and others to present their accounts in open town meeting, and they were there accepted or rejected.

At this meeting, Abner Fellows was elected constable and declined to serve, and the following record was made as a part of the proceedings of the day :

March 18, 1782. This Day Tentered to Abner Fellows after he was Chosen Constable the Constables Oath before Lieut Peter Sleeper Moses

<sup>1</sup>As appears elsewhere, the mill lot on Newfound river was one of the public lots. It was deeded to Maj. John Tolford on condition that he should erect and operate mills there for the benefit of the inhabitants of the town. It was claimed at this time that these mills were not so operated. Joshua Tolford was clerk of the proprietors and presumably had the records, hence this vote.

Sleeper and Thomas Crawford and the Said Fellows Refused and would not take the oath.

Carr Huse Justice Peace

According to a return made by the selectmen, Sept. 25, 1783, there were then in town 353 inhabitants; only twenty-six framed houses, and twenty-eight framed barns, from which it would seem that the larger part of the people were still living in log cabins.

The selectmen were frequently called upon to furnish food and lodgings for those traveling who had no means of paying their own way. At the annual meeting in 1784, it was voted to give no entertainment to those traveling on Sunday. In 1786, the town put itself on record against paper money.

Previous to 1785, the lands owned by non-residents, most of whom were the proprietors of the town, were not subject to a highway tax, and while these persons were benefited by the building of roads, they paid nothing towards their construction or maintenance. This was so manifestly unjust that in September, 1785, the following petition was sent to the president of the state and the general assembly:

To His Excellency the President and to the Honourable the Senate & House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened at Concord Octr 1785

Wee the Subscribers Inhabitants of New Chester Being Desireous of Promoteing the Publick Good and the Settlement of the Western part of the State which at present is a great part Uncultivated and as it is highly Necessary that Good Roads Should Be Made and kept in Repair in order that People might pass and Repass From one part of the state to the other with as Little Trouble and difficulty as Possible and the Town of New Chester is a very Long Town it is between nineteen & twenty miles in Length as the Road goes besides a very Bad Mountain which Must be Crosd and wee have Several Long Bridges Some of which we have Been obliged to Build twice in a year By reason of Freshets, in Short wee have upwards of Fifty Miles of Roads already in the Town to maintain, & But Eighty Six polls in the town which makes it such a Burden to us that wee are not able to Make our Roads Good without Some help therefore wee pray your Excellency and Honours to grant the Town the Liberty to Tax the Lands of the Nonresidents Lying in the Town to the highways in Such a way as your Excellency & Honours in your wisdom Shall think Best, and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will Ever Pray

New Chester Septemb<sup>r</sup> 24th 1785

Benjn Boardman	Elias Boardman	John Mitchel
Joseph marshall	Seth Spencer	Josiah Brown Jr
Peter heath	David Craig	Alexander Craig
Simeon Cross	Cutting Favour	Jonathan Merrill
Joseph Sanborn	David plum	Nathan Colby
Joseph Hoyt	william murray	Jacob Gurdy
Winsor Goolden	John Cleavland	John Cleavland Junr
Michael Moshier	Thomas Lock	Daniel Heath
Case fuller	Jacob Peaslee	Sherbern Tilton
John Sleeper	John Tilton	John ———
Carr Huse	David Emerson	willom Benet

Tilton Bennet  
 Josiah heath  
 John Bussell  
 Thomas Crawford  
 Jonathan Crawford  
 Peter Sleeper

Ephm Webster  
 Jacob wells  
 Reuben wells  
 John Smith  
 Abner fellows  
 Sherburn Sanborn

Nathaniel Sanborn  
 Thomas Rowell  
 thomas Wells  
 Nason Cass  
 Moses Sleeper  
 Theophilus Sanborn

The result was, the assembly passed an act authorizing the town to tax the non-resident lands for the two years next ensuing.

The next step in the development of the territory embraced in the old town of New Chester was the division of the town. Though a distressing war had prevailed for more than half of the time since the organization of the town, material advancement had been made. Now that peace had returned and the finances of the country had been placed on a firmer basis, the prospects of the town were decidedly brighter than at any previous time in its history. With the dawn of 1787, the question of the division of the town was actively agitated. At the annual town meeting the question came up for action, and the town voted in favor of a division at Smith's river. This vote was then reconsidered and a vote was passed favoring a division of the town at a line running from the Pemigewasset river between Lots 55 and 56, to the westerly end of these lots, thence in a straight line to the outlet of Newfound lake.

Notwithstanding this vote, public sentiment was divided. There were those who were opposed to any change; those who wished to have the territory of New Chester divided into two towns, and those who advocated the formation of two new towns, one to be composed of the northern part of New Chester, and the other of the central part of New Chester and the eastern part of Alexandria. The people in the eastern part of Alexandria were nearly a unit in favor of this last named plan. The result was, two petitions and a remonstrance were sent to the assembly. The first petition was dated Aug. 23, 1787, and read as follows:

#### State of New Hampshire

To the Honourable Senate and House of Representatives of said State to be convened at Charlestown on the Second Wednesday of September AD. 1787.

The Petition of the inhabitants of New Chester in said State Humbly Sheweth, Wee your Petitioners Laboring under many Difficulties and Disadvantages in our present Circumstances by Reason of the Town Being Exceeding Long and in one place but a very little more than a mile wide, which makes it very difficult for the Major part of the People to attend Publick Worship when we have preaching in the town, and like wise to Attend Town Meetings, as it is Commonly bad-traveling when we have our Annual meetings, the Town is more than nineteen Miles in length. Wee your Humble Petitioners Earnestly Request that your Excellency and Honours would Divide the Town of New Chester into two



Towns, and that it may be Divided at Newfound River So Called (vs) Beginning at the mouth of Newfound River and running up said River untill it come to Newfound pond, then running on the Easterly shore of said pond untill it comes to the Town line between New Chester and Plymouth,<sup>1</sup> and your petitioners as in Duty Bound will ever Pray

New Chester August 23th 1787

Carr Huse	Nathaniel Sanborn	David Emerson
Reuben Wells	Ephm Webster	Thomas Rowell
John Bussell	Cutting favour	Joseph Jonson
Nathan Colby	Michael Mosher	Thomas Lock
Peter heath	Thomas Huse	Samuel worthen
Jonathan Ingalls Junr	John fellows	Benj Boardman
Elias Boardman	Jonathan Holt	John Mitchel
Jonath Ingals	Seth Spencer	Josiah Brown
Joseph Marshall	Jonathan Carlton	Jacob Fellows
Joseph Emons	Ephraim Clark	Isaac Senter
Moses Fellows	John Mitchel Junr	Jonathan Crawford
Simeon Cross	Ziba Townsend	Benjamin Emons
Daniel Heath	Chase Fuller	William Powell
James heath	John Ladd	Josiah heath
Jonathan heath	Samuel Drew	John heath
David powell	David Craig	James Craige
Alexander Craige	Robt Craige	

This was followed by the following petition of the inhabitants of Alexandria and New Chester :

To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives Convened at Charlestown the Second Wednesday of Sept'r A. D. 1787.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of a part of New Chester Lying Between Newfound Pond River and Smiths River so called—and the Inhabitants of the North [east] Part or first Division of Alexandria, Humbly Shews that we your Petitioners for a number of years have Laboured under many difficultys by reason of our Scattered Situation it being as much as fourteen Miles from one Extreame part of our Settlements in Alexandria to the other Extreame.—and the situation of that part of New Chester above mentioned is nearly as convenient to either of the Centers of New Chester which makes it extreamey Difficult to assemble either to transact Town Business or for Public Worship—Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly pray that your Excellency and Honours would grant us an Incorporation by the name of . . . . Beginning at the mouth of Smiths River so called thence westerly up Sd River to the Range Line between the first and Second Divns of Alexandria thence North 12 Degs West to the Pattent Line as lately Run—thence North Easterly by Sd Pattent Line to the Easterly side of Newfound Pond thence down the Easterly Shore to the outlet of Sd Pond thence South Easterly by the Range Line Between the Second and third Divisions of New Chester to the corner of the River Lott No. 56, thence Easterly on the Line Between 56 and 57 to Pemigesawasset River thence Down Said River to the mouth of Smiths River first mentioned and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will ever pray.

N. B. it was always expected and intended By the Proprietors of Alexandria and New Chester to make four or five Towns or Parishes of the two, and to Divide Nearly according to the vote of the Inhabitants of New Chester and this Petition

Alexandria, Sept'r 3, 1787,

<sup>1</sup> Now Hebron.

Joshua Tolford	John McMurphy	thomas fuller
Eliphalet Gale	Hugh Campbell	Ebenezer Simonds
Sanders Mcmurphy	Nathl Bartlett	George Corliss
Peter Smith	Simon Merrill	Jeremiah Ladd
Alexr McMurphy	John Sleeper	William Corliss
Moses Johnson	Ebenezer Ferrin	Benja Basford
Asa Hastings	Timothy Simonds	William Simonds
David Cross	Alexander Craig	Sherburn Tilton
Benjamin Emerson	Sherburn Tilton Jr.	W Willerd
Sherburn Sanborn	Nathaniel Ladd	Israel Ingalls
Theophilus Sanborn	Eleazer Taylor	John tilton
William Morrison	Joseph Hoyt	Isaac Ladd
Moses Worthen	William McMurphy	Moses Sleeper
william Ladd	John simond	peter Ladd
Josiah Emerson	Joshua Taylor	John Moor Corliss

N. B. the following are the Inhabitants of New Chester that are petitioners as they have signed their names in this Petition.

Theophilus Sanborn	William Corliss	John Tilton
William Morrison	Moses Sleeper	John Smith
Sherburn Sanborn	Thomas Fuller	Asa Hartings
Moses Worthen	William Boyd	Sherburn Tilton Jr
John Sleeper	Ebenezer Ferren	Joseph Hoyt
Alexander Craig	Sherburn Tilton	

Both of these petitions were addressed to the legislature that met at Charlestown in September, 1787. The last was before the house Sept. 14, and a hearing was fixed for the third Wednesday of the session in January, following, at Portsmouth. This seems to have stirred the opposition to action and the following remonstrance was sent in :

#### State of New Hampshire.

To the Honorable the Senate & House of Representatives Convened at Portsmouth the Wednesday of January A. D. 1788.

Wee the Subscribers inhabitants of the Town of New Chester in Said State Do Protest against the Petition the inhabitants of Alexandria & a part of New Chester to be Taken off and Joyned with a part of Alexandria and to be incorporated into a Town The Reasons against it are as follows firstly wee apprehend it will Ruin the South part of New Chester for making a Convenient Town for a number of years to Come as there will be but thirty-four polls in the whole and Several of them are very Scattering Secondly if a part of this Town Should be Joined with Alexandria it will Reduce us So as that wee shall be unable to support the Gospel in our Day. thirdly it will Deprive us of a public Lot of land which was laid out & belongs to the South part of the Town for the Benefit of a School forever which wee think is very unreasonable wee think it will be very hard to have the Town Cut to pieces and Ruined to accommodate another Town when it will be more to the advantage to be kept together as wee have been very well united till of late, therefore wee Rest the matter with your Excellency & Honours to your wise Determination and as in Duety Bound will ever pray.

N. B. there have three Signed their petition which Does not own a foot of land in New Chester one of them is upwards of seventy years of age<sup>1</sup> & has not been Taxed in town for Several years past Thomas Fuller

<sup>1</sup> Moses Worthen.

never Did belong to the Town for he was warned out of the Town very Soon after he came into it & has never been Taxed in the Town Sherburn Tilton is under twenty years of age.

Another town meeting was held Nov. 1, 1787. The second article in the warrant was

To See if the Town will Comply with the Petition which the Town of New Chester have Preferred to the General Court to have the town divided at Newfound River, and to be incorporated into two towns. Thirdly if the Town Does not comply with the Aforesaid petition then to see where the town will have it Divided.

At this meeting it was

Voted not to Comply with the Petition which the Town of New Chester have preferred to the General Court.

Thirdly, Voted that the Town be Divided Beginning at the Bound at Pemigewasset River Between Daniel Heaths and Lieut. Benj. Emmons, and running on Said Line to the head Line of Said lot then to run on the head lines of the Home Lots till it Comes to the South Easterly Corner of No. 2 in the third Division then Northerly to the range line then to Run westerly on the Range line to the Mouth of Newfound pond.

Another meeting was called for Dec. 27, to see if the town would put itself on record in favor of the petition sent to the legislature by those favoring the incorporation of a town from the central part of New Chester and a portion of Alexandria. The call for this town meeting was defective, and no business was done.

An act to incorporate a town by the name of Bridgewater passed the house Feb. 11, 1788, and the next day the senate concurred. No part of Alexandria was taken to form the new town; New Chester being simply cut in two, the line running on the north bank of Newfound river, and thence on the east shore of the lake to the Plymouth (now Hebron) line. It will thus be seen that no part of Newfound lake is in Bridgewater.

New Chester was not only divided pretty nearly in the center, geographically, but also as to its population. There were in the town, in April before the division, one hundred and four taxpayers, and of these fifty resided in that part of the town taken to form Bridgewater, leaving fifty-four in the old town. The names of the taxpayers in each town are here given:

#### Taxpayers in New Chester.

David Emerson, Esq.	Winsor Goolden
Nathaniel Sanborn	William Murray
Ephraim Webster	David Dodge
Carr Huse, Esq.	John Emmons
Thomas Huse	John Nichols
John Bussell	Ensign Reuben Wells

Tilton Bennett  
 Chandler Cass  
 Nason Cass  
 Jeremiah Quimby  
 Capt. Cutting Favor  
 Joseph Sanborn  
 Nathan Colby  
 John Colby  
 Daniel Shirley  
 Phineas Sargent  
 William Pingrey  
 Benjamin Winter  
 Lieut. John Smith  
 Capt. Peter Sleeper  
 Joseph Hoyt  
 John Ladd  
 Ebenezer Ferrin  
 Asa Hastings  
 William Baid  
 Lieut. Robert Forsaith  
 Widow Ruth Sleeper.

Jeremiah Quimby, Jr.  
 Thomas Favor  
 Lieut. Thomas Wells  
 Timothy Sargent  
 David Hunt  
 Peter Wells  
 Thomas Rowell  
 Jacob Blaisdell  
 William Nichols  
 William Searles  
 Capt. John Tolford  
 Theophilus Sanborn  
 Shirburn Sanborn  
 Sherburn Tilton  
 Alexander Craige  
 William Morrison  
 [Name illegible]  
 Jonathan Merrill  
 Ebenezer Wells  
 Stephen Patten

#### Taxpayers in Bridgewater.

Josiah Brown  
 Stephen Thurston Brown  
 Jonathan Jewett  
 Abel Turrell  
 Samuel Stearns  
 Jacob Fellows  
 Lieut. Jonathan Robbey  
 Joseph Emmons  
 Thomas Crawford  
 Jonathan Carleton  
 Peter Heath  
 Benjamin Boardman  
 Elias Boardman  
 John Fellows  
 Moses Fellows  
 Jonathan Ingalls  
 Jonathan Holt  
 William Ordway  
 Elijah Sanborn  
 Abram Sanborn  
 Isaac Senter  
 Jonathan Crawford  
 Mary Craig  
 Samuel Drew  
 Jonas Turrell

John Kidder  
 John Cleveland  
 Thomas Locke  
 Michael Moshier  
 John Tilton  
 Samuel Worthen  
 John Mitchell  
 Seth Spencer  
 John Sleeper  
 Moses Sleeper  
 Josiah Fellows  
 Elis Fellows  
 Benjamin Kidder  
 Lieut. Benjamin Emons  
 Esq. Daniel Heath  
 Chase Fuller  
 William Powell  
 Jacob Peaslee  
 John Heath  
 Josiah Heath  
 James Heath  
 Jonathan Ingalls, Jr.  
 Simeon Cross  
 Jacob Gurdy  
 Samuel Gurdy



## CHAPTER VII

### BRIDGEWATER AND NEW CHESTER FROM 1788 TILL THE INCORPORATION OF BRISTOL

The full region leads  
New colonies forth, that toward the western seas  
Spread, like a rapid flame among the autumnal trees.  
—*Bryant.*

In this chapter, as elsewhere in this history, no attempt is made to confine the subject-matter to that part of New Chester and Bridgewater now Bristol. The history of every part of these towns is so closely linked to the whole that this cannot well be done. At the same time no effort is made to cover all the history of these towns, during these years, as this is beyond the scope of this work.

#### BRIDGEWATER

The following is a copy of the charter of Bridgewater :

##### State of New Hampshire

In the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight.

An act to incorporate the northerly part of New Chester in the county of Grafton into a distinct town.

Whereas, a petition hath been preferred to the General Court in behalf of the inhabitants of New Chester in the county of Grafton setting forth that they labor under great inconveniences by reason of the great length of their town and praying that they may be divided into two towns, of which public notice has been given and no objection has been made,

Therefore, be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened and by authority of the same that there be and hereby is a township erected and incorporated by the name of Bridgewater<sup>1</sup> bounded as follows :

Beginning at the mouth of Newfound River (so called), thence running by the northerly bank of said river to New found pond, thence by the easterly shore of said pond to Plymouth line, thence by said line to Pemigewasset river, thence down said river to the bound first mentioned, including all the islands in said river against said tract.

And the inhabitants of said tract are hereby erected into a body politic and corporate to have continuance and succession forever, and invested with all the rights, privileges and immunities which any town in this state have and enjoy.

To hold to the said inhabitants and their successors forever and Mr

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<sup>1</sup> Named after an English town.

Thomas Crawford is hereby authorized to call a meeting of said inhabitants to choose all necessary and customary town officers, giving fourteen days notice of the time and place and design of said meeting, and the officers then chosen shall be and hereby are invested with all the power and authority necessary to discharge the duties of their respective offices as in other towns in this state, and every other meeting which shall be annually held in said town for that purpose shall be on the second Tuesday of March forever, Provided that nothing in this act shall alter the mode of choosing representatives, but that they shall be chosen in the same manner as though this act of incorporation had not taken place, and that the state and county taxes be assessed and collected in the same manner as heretofore practiced, until a new valuation be taken through the state.

#### State of New Hampshire

In the House of Representatives Feby. 11th, 1788. The foregoing bill having been read a third time voted that it pass to be enacted.  
Sent up for concurrence.

Thos. Bartlett, Speaker.

In Senate February 12, 1788.

This bill having been read a third time, voted that the same be enacted.

Jno. Sullivan, President.

The warrant for the first town meeting in Bridgewater was issued by Thomas Crawford, in the following words :

#### State of New Hampshire, Grafton SS.

Whereas an act of incorporation by the General Court of said state have been granted to the town of Bridgewater bearing the date February 12, 1788, authorizing me, the subscriber, to call a meeting of said inhabitants to chuse all necessary and customary Town officers, giving fourteen days notice of the time, place and design of such meeting, these are therefore to notify and warn the Freeholders and inhabitants of the town of Bridgewater to assemble and meet at the dwelling house of Mr. Samuel Drew in Bridgewater on Tuesday the eleventh day of March, next ensuing, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon of said day,

First. To chuse a moderator to govern said meeting.

Second. To chuse a Town Clerk for the year ensuing.

Thirdly. To chuse a Constable for the year ensuing.

Fourthly. No chuse Selectmen for the year ensuing.

Fifthly. To chuse all necessary and customary town officers.

Sixthly. To bring in votes for a President.

Seventhly. To bring in votes for a Senator.

Eighthly. To bring in votes for a County Register.

Ninthly. To bring in votes for a County Treasurer.

Tenthly. To see what sum of money the Town will raise to clear and repair highways for the year ensuing.

Eleventhly. To act upon any thing more that may appear necessary or expedient when met.

Given under my hand at Bridgewater February 25, 1788.

Thomas Crawford.

This meeting was held, as called, at the house of Samuel

Drew. Mr. Drew lived, at the time, in the Locke neighborhood, just south of the present line between Bristol and Bridgewater, and his place was, therefore, near the center of the new town. The following are the records of this first town meeting :

At a legal meeting held at the house of Samuel Drew, in Bridgewater, March ye 11, 1788, Daniel Heath, Esq., was chosen Moderator to govern the meeting.

Thomas Crawford was chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing.

Daniel Heath, Esq., was chosen Constable for the year ensuing.

Thomas Crawford was chosen Selectman. Simeon Cross was chosen Selectman. Micheal Moshier was chosen Selectman for the year ensuing.

Thomas Locke, Chase Fuller, Samuel Drew, Jonathan Carleton, Jonathan Ingalls, Jun., and Jonathan Tirrell was chosen surveyors of highways.

Jonathan Ingalls & Josiah Heath was chosen Hogreves for the year ensuing.

Jonathan Carleton and Moses Sleeper was chosen Surveyors of Lumber.

The votes being brought in for President there was 28 votes for John Langdon, Esq., and one vote for Samuel Livermore, Esq.

The votes being brought for a Senator There was 33 votes for Francis Worcester, Esq.

County Register, 39 votes for Samuel Emerson, Esq. County Treasurer, 32 votes for Samuel Emerson, Esq.

Voted to raise fifty five pounds for clearing and repairing highways for the year ensuing.

Voted to allow three shillings per day for work done on the highways.

The meeting was dissolved.

So the meeting was dissolved.

Thomas Crawford, Town Clerk.

Another meeting was held at the same place November 3, following, when Thomas Crawford and Jacob Gurdy were chosen a committee to settle with New Chester ; another, Dec. 15, to vote for representatives to Congress, and still another, Feb. 2, 1789, to vote to fill a vacancy in the New Hampshire delegation to Congress. The last mentioned meeting was held in the afternoon, and adjourned to meet at the house of Moses Sleeper, in the evening of the same day. This evening meeting was, therefore, the first town meeting held in what is now Bristol village.

1789. Four town meetings were held this year; the first two at Samuel Drew's, and the next two at John Fellows's on Bridgewater hill. One was for the purpose of electing a collector to succeed Daniel Heath, deceased, for no vacancies were filled by the selectmen in those days, and another was for the selection of a grand juror, all jurors then being chosen at a town meeting called for the purpose. This year the town voted to buy a jury box, and the box purchased under this vote is still in use in Bridgewater.

1790. It was voted to allow the account of Thomas Crawford—one pound, eight shillings and six pence, for his services as selectman in 1788, and fourteen shillings for his services as selectman and committeeman in 1789. Jacob Gurdy was allowed fourteen shillings for his services as committeeman for 1789.

1793. The subject of the division of the town came up in Bridgewater as well as in New Chester. It was "Voted to allow the lower end of Bridgewater to be set off to join New Chester and New Hampton, to begin between Lots 35 and 36, First Division, thence to run till it strikes Newfound pond River," but no further action was taken on this subject till 1800.

Jonathan Ingalls, Jr., and Jonathan Carleton, fence viewers, made a report this year that "having viewed Samuel Stern's fence around his cornfield they find that the said fence is good and lawful in their opinion."

1794. In 1790, the town first voted to build pounds, one at Capt. Jonathan Crawford's and one at John Kidder's, but no work appears to have been done under the vote. At the meeting in 1794 it was voted to build two pounds, one near John Peaslee's and another at John Fellows's, each of round logs thirty feet square. The record tells us that Alexander Craig agreed to build one, at Lieut. John Fellows's, and finish the same "to the turning of the key by the fifteenth of September, next, for \$7, and Samuel Heath agreed to build the other for \$6.50."

1796. The annual meeting this year was held at the house of William Powell. It was voted to hold meetings half of the time at Lieut. Samuel Worthen's and the other half at John Mitchell's, "year about." As these two men lived at the extreme ends of the town, this arrangement was equitable. Thomas Crawford and Jacob Gurdy were each allowed \$2.50 and Jonathan Jewett ten shillings and six pence, for services as selectmen the year previous.

1798. A committee, consisting of Capt. Daniel Moore, Lieut. Moses Lewis, and Thomas Crawford, was elected to sell the public lots belonging to the town.

1799. This year laborers were allowed seven cents per hour on the highways from June 1 to Sept. 30; after that, five cents per hour.

1800. At a town meeting held Oct. 27, in regard to dividing the town, it was voted that the division should "begin at the lower end of Newfound pond between Lots 88 and 89, Second Division, running on the range line to the northeast corner of Lot No. 77, in the Second Division, thence turning and running between Lots 76 and 77 to Lot 90, and by easterly side line of said Lot 90 to southeast corner thereof, thence to run between Lots 38 and 37, First Division." After this vote,



this subject did not again come up in town meeting for seventeen years.

1804. A bounty of twenty-five cents was voted for each crow killed in town in May or June of that year. This bounty was continued for several years.

1807. The annual town meeting this year was held at the schoolhouse in District No. 1, that stood on the west side of North Main street, just north of Hotel Bristol. It was voted to build "one sufficient pound in the center of the town," and that the selectmen "pitch upon the place where the pound shall stand and superintend the building thereof." It was also voted to buy a standard of weights and measures.

1810. It was voted to hold the town meetings one-half of the time at the meeting-house on Bridgewater hill, and the other half at Bridgewater village, now Bristol village.

1812. It was voted to allow seven cents per hour for labor on the highway, and one hour's time for each two miles of travel.

1814. It was voted this year to lease Ministerial Lot No. 75, Second Division, for nine hundred and ninety-nine years. Robert Craig, William Pingrey, John Harriman, Simon Harris, and Ichabod C. Bartlett were elected a committee to sell the same. On an expression of the voters on the revision of the constitution, there were one hundred and ninety votes against it and none in favor.

The case of Moses Lewis came up this year in town meeting. The town had brought suit against "Moses Lewis and others" to recover on their bond, and John Fellows was elected a committee to prosecute the case. Moses Lewis was an extensive business man. He opened the first store in town in connection with his residence at the corner of Central square and Spring street. He owned the tannery and built a saw-mill and grist-mill on the south side of the river, and engaged in other enterprises. In 1807, suit was entered against him for the foreclosure of a mortgage, by Jonathan Howard, of Boston, on which a writ of ejectment was issued in October, 1808. For the next six years reverse followed reverse, until all his property was swept away and he was stripped of everything except the very few articles exempt by law at that time. A few cooking utensils were saved from the relentless grasp of the law by the kindly warnings of neighbors when the sheriff came to town. Mr. Lewis was thrown into jail for debt; the last and perhaps the only case of the kind that ever occurred in town. His failure produced wide-spread distress in this section, and much bitterness against him existed for many years in the community. There is, however, no evidence to show intentional wrongdoing on his part. It was claimed that the depression of business, previous to the War of 1812, was the chief factor in his failure.

As Mr. Lewis at this time could not have had any property within the reach of the law, the action of the town was evidently brought against "Moses Lewis and others" hoping to recover from the "others." We are not told what the result of the action of the town was.

1817. The subject of the creation of a new town, which had lain dormant for seventeen years, again came up for action this year in Bridgewater. Since the town last acted on this subject, public sentiment had undergone a change, and now the vote was forty-six against, and forty-two in favor of the division of the town. The next year (1818) the town voted to instruct its representative to oppose the division of the town, and to employ an attorney to assist him if necessary. Walter R. Webster, a constable, was directed to canvass the town north of the proposed division line, and ascertain how many voters were opposed to the division.

1819. At the annual meeting this year, John Harriman, Humphrey Webster, Daniel Brown, and Ichabod C. Bartlett were elected a committee on the division of the town. As a majority of the voters were opposed to a division, only one, the last on the committee, was elected from that part of the town favoring the incorporation of a new town. This committee made a report at an adjourned meeting May 6, and its report is here given in full; but it will be noticed that Mr. Bartlett did not sign the report.

We, the Subscribers, a Committee to see how and where the town of Bridgewater should be divided and report our opinion the most suitable place.

The Committee think best not to divide the town at any place, but if the town must be divided we think the most suitable place would be to begin at the most southeasterly corner of Lot No. 38, in the First Division of lots in Bridgewater by the river; thence on the southerly side line of said Lot Westerly to the most Southwesterly corner of said lot; thence Northerly to the westerly end line of said lot the same course till it strikes the most southwesterly corner of Lot No. 71, second Division, thence Westerly on the Southerly end line of said lots No. 71, 70, 69, 68, 67, 65, 64, and by the Southerly end line of Lot No. 89, in the second division by the pond.

John Harriman,	} Committee
Simeon Harris,	
Humphrey Webster,	
	to divide
	the town.

This report was accepted.

We will now leave the history of Bridgewater and follow the course of events during the same time, 1788 to 1819, in

#### NEW CHESTER

The first year after the division of New Chester, in 1788,

four town meetings were held, and this was about the average number during the first twenty-five or thirty years of the existence of the town. The first of these four was the annual meeting, held March 17, 1788, at the house of Capt. Cutting Favor. Before the division most of the meetings had been held at the dwelling of Col. Peter Sleeper, at Jonathan Ingalls's, or at Abner Fellows's, near the center of the old town. After the division, the meetings were held most of the time till 1798 at Cutting Favor's. At this first meeting in 1788, Nason Cass was chosen moderator. Only twenty-two voters were present, but the usual routine work was accomplished—officers elected, committees chosen to look after the public lots, the matter of raising money for schools and for preaching disposed of, highways provided for, and the pay of laborers on the highway fixed at three shillings per day. One vote was "that Lieut. John Smith Should be cleared from all other highway tax so long as he lives where he now does with his keeping the plank, the covering of Smith's bridge, so called, in good repair at his own cost." There could have been but little political excitement, for of the twenty-two votes cast, twenty-one were for John Langdon for president of the state, and one for Josiah Bartlett.

At a meeting held Sept. 17, following, Peter Sleeper and Carr Huse were chosen a committee to settle all affairs between New Chester and Bridgewater.

In December, 1789, the selectmen of New Chester and Bridgewater jointly sent the following petition to the legislature:

#### State of New Hampshire

To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives convened at Portsmouth the fourth Wednesday of December AD 1789

The Petition of the inhabitants of the Town Ships of New Chester and Bridgewater in said State Humbly Sheweth that your Petitioners have been and Still are at great Cost to clear and maintain Highways in Said Town Ships and by Reason of great Freshits have been obliged to alter Clear and Make new Roads in Many places and have built several large Bridges which are costly to Maintain which Makes the burden heavy upon us as our number of Rateable polls is but Small, therefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Honours would grant that all the lands in said Town Ships may be taxed one penny upon an Acre Public lots Excepted for three years next Ensuing for the purpose of Clearing and Repairing high ways in Said Town Ships and your Petitioners as in Duety Bound will Ever pray.

New Chester December 16<sup>th</sup> 1789

Theophilus Sanborn  
Jonathan Carlton

Reuben Wells  
Thomas Crawford

Michael Mosher

Select Men For and in Behalf of Said Towns.

The authority asked for was granted by an act of the legislature, passed Jan. 14, 1790.

At the January session of the legislature, in 1791, the selectmen of New Chester and Bridgewater jointly petitioned the General Court that they be allowed to again tax the unimproved lands for the benefit of the highways. An act was passed authorizing a tax of three pence to be imposed on each acre of land one year for this purpose.

Carr Huse was one of the selectmen in 1793, as in many other years. We present his itemized bill for services for that year, which is in marked contrast with the present custom of the selectmen in charging a lump sum :

The Town of New Chester to Carr Huse, Dr.

	£	s.	Pence
April 2, 1793. To one day at taking inventory		2	6
Dr. To one day at assessing the polls and estates with the assessors		2	6
Dr. To one day at making highway tax		2	6
Dr. To one day at copying the high way Tax & wrighting warrant for the surveyors of high ways		2	6
Dr. To two Days My Self & horse to Holderness <sup>1</sup> and to the back part of New Chester to find out whither Molly Clark had been legally warned out of town		12	
Dr. To one day my self and horse to Sanbornton & through Northfield and Salisbury to hire money for the town of New Chester		6	
To one Day at settling with the Constables		2	6
To one Day at Notifying Andover Selectmen to perambulate the line		2	6
to Two Days at Settling with the Collectors		5	
August Dr to Two days at Making the Town and School taxes Drawing the warrant & for Copying the Taxes and Warrant		5	
Sept Dr to one day at laying out highways		2	6
December to 5 Days at Running the line between Alexandria and New Chester,		10	
To 5 days settling highway work		12	
Dr. To 2 days at Running the line between New Chester and Andover		12	

The incorporation of Bridgewater did not entirely satisfy those who favored the formation of a town from the central part of the old town of New Chester. They wished to see New-found river the center of a town instead of the dividing line between two, and the agitation of the subject of another town was renewed at this time in New Chester. One article in the

<sup>1</sup>The trip to Holderness was for the purpose of obtaining the legal advise of Samuel Livermore on the Molly Clark case, for which \$1 was paid. This case is described in the chapter on "The Town's Poor."



warrant for the annual meeting in 1793 read as follows: "To see if the Town will Vote a part of the Town may be set off agreeably to a petition which they have Drawn and Signed to Send to the General Assembly." A similar article was in the warrant of the town of Bridgewater the same year. The vote in New Chester was "No"; that in Bridgewater, "Yes." Not satisfied with this expression, the same question came up again the next year, with the same result. Again in November, 1800, almost the identical article was inserted in the warrant, and again the vote of New Chester was in the negative.

In March, 1794, the town first took action in regard to a pound; and the town clerk made the following record as a part of the proceedings of the meeting:

Voted to Build a Pound the Present year to Stand Somewhere on Capt. Cutting Favours land Near Plymouth Road Between the Said Favours House and his Grist Mill Major Peter Sleeper has engaged to Build the Pound and to have it built by the last Day of June next to be 8 feet high & to be thirty feet Square built with good pine timber with a good gate hung with iron hinges with a good lock to it and he is to have Seven dollars for building said Pound.

This year the selectmen were allowed eight shillings for one gallon of rum used while running the line between New Chester and Alexandria.

In 1797, able-bodied men were allowed fifty cents per day for labor on the highway; the same was allowed for a yoke of oxen, one shilling for an ox cart, one shilling for a plow, and six and one-fourth cents for an iron bar.

In 1798, it was voted to hold the town meetings one-half the time at Samuel Favor's, and the other half at John Smith's or on New Chester mountain.

Previous to 1794, the method of calling town meetings was similar to that in vogue to-day, the call being made over the signature of the selectmen. Commencing with August, of that year, the warrant was issued by the selectmen as before, but directed to a constable of the town who posted the same over his signature. The following is a copy of a warrant issued under this system:

State of New Hampshire Grafton SS.

Warrant for Town Meeting

To Charles Noyes Constable for the Town of New Chester, Greeting

You are hereby Required in the Name of Said State to warn all the Inhabitants and Freeholders in Said Town Qualified by Law to Vote in Town Meeting to Meet and Assemble at the Dwelling House of Samuel Favour in said Town on Tuesday the Fourteenth Day of May Next at two O.Clock P-M. To Act on the following articles

1st To Choose a Moderator to Govern Said Meeting

2d To see if the town will vote to Sell a Lease of the Public Lot Number Seventy three in the fourth Division in Said Town

3d To See What method the Town will Take with Respect to the Sale of Said Lot whether by Public or private Sale if any Sale is made

4th To act on any other Business Thought Necessary when Met

Hereof fail not and make Due Return of this Warrant with your Doing thereon to the Town Clerk at or before the Said Fourteenth Day of May. AD. 1799.

Given under our Hands and Seal this 20th Day of April 1799

Eben Kimball	} Selectmen
Sethus Forbes	
Jona. Dickerson	
	of
	New Chester

According to the within Warrant to Me Directed I have warned the Inhabitants to Meet at Time and place by posting coppies as the Law Directs. New Chester May 14 1799

Charles Noyes Constable

The following is a part of the record of a town meeting held Mar. 16, 1801, at the meeting-house in Hill Center, showing the accounts presented for settlement:

Voted to allow Ebenezer Kimballs account for his servis as a selectman for 1799, which was	\$14.59
Voted to allow Peter Sleepers account as a selectman	2.75
Voted to allow Willam Searls account as a Selectman,	1.75
Voted to allow Ensign Thomas Favors account as an agent for 1800,	.25
Voted to allow Edward Blodgetts account as an agent for 1800 and for a journey to Haverhill	1.83
Voted to allow Carr Huse account for his Servis as Town Treasurer for 1799 & for Recording an inventory & the Taxes for 1800 & as Town Treasurer for 1800,	8.00

The constable was instructed that year to post thereafter five copies of the warrants for town meetings—one at the “meeting-house,” one at “the street,” one “at the mill house over the mountain,” owned by Moses Lewis, one at “Murray Hill,” and one at “Smith’s mill.”

All the records of the town in those days were entered in one book, in the order in which the business was transacted. A sample page is here given, following a record of a town meeting:

Ziba Townsend was Married to Nancy Bartlett May 5th 1800 by Carr Huse Just Peace

June 26, 1800 Henry Wells the son of Reuben Wells died.

James Karr his Mark for Sheep and other Creatures is a Cropp off each Ear & a Slit on the end of the right ear.

Jonathan Hunkins the son of Thomas Hunkins was born June the 11th 1799. William Howes Hunkins the son of Thomas Hunkins was born February the First Day 1801.

William Flanders his Mark for Sheep & other Creatures is a half Cropp off the under side of Each Ear Recorded February 13th 1801.

New Chester Jany ye 12th 1801  
Wee the Subscribers License Edmund Bussell of New Chester to Tavernize and Mix liquors of all kinds one year from the above Date under the restrictions of the Law.

Eben Kimball } Selectmen of  
Peter Sleeper } New Chester

Recorded Jany ye 13th 1801

New Chester Jany ye 12th 1801  
This may certify that Mr. David Stevens of New Chester and Mrs. Salla Webber of Plainfield have been lawfully published in this Town for Marriage I suppose Enfield was meant but I was informed Plainfield Attest Carr Huse Town Clerk.

William Stevens son of Wait Stevens was Born April 25th 1795.

William Stevens died June 5th 1796

Amos Stevens son of Wait Stevens was born July 18th 1799.

Recorded Jany 13th 1801

New Chester February 4th 1801  
Wee the Subscribers do hereby approbate Mr. Ichabod C. Bartlett as a person Qualified for a Retailor of Spirituous Liquors and recommend him to the inspector for License for that Purpose

Peter Sleeper } Selectmen of  
Ebenezer Kimball } New Chester

The disposition of the public lots came up for discussion many times in town meeting, but a vote to sell could not be obtained till 1802, when it was voted to sell at auction all the public lots, except the ministerial lots.

The account of the town officers allowed at the annual town meeting in 1803 was as follows: Town clerk, \$2.45; treasurer, \$5; W. W. Sargent, selectman, \$4.42; Ebenezer Kimball, selectman, \$3.00; total, \$14.87. This year, for the first time, the town voted to elect its officers by ballot.

In 1804, it was voted to allow workmen on the highway sixty-seven cents per day until the last day of September, each man to furnish his own diet and tools; after that date fifty cents per day was allowed.

For a number of years there was some friction between New Chester and Alexandria over the divisional line. Both towns claimed James Murray as a citizen, while he supposed he was a resident of New Chester. In 1803, he was warned to appear at a training in Alexandria to which he paid no attention. Thereupon the commander of the company, Capt. Robt. McMurphy, imposed a fine which Murray paid, and then brought suit against the captain for collecting a fine unlawfully. This action was supported by New Chester in order to have the true line established. The case drifted along till 1811, when the town, tired of delay, petitioned the General Court for the

appointment of a committee to determine the true jurisdictional line between the two towns. The prayer was granted, and William Webster, Broadstreet Moody, and Enoch Colby, Esq., were appointed as the committee. Their report was not placed on record, but it was evidently in favor of New Chester, as William Murray continued to be taxed as a resident of that town.

Nothing escaped taxation in those days, and the taxes were collected with relentless exactness. Here is an account of a tax-collector's sale in 1807: A wooden bowl, ten cents; mortar and pestle, twenty cents; saddle bags, ten cents; bridle, forty cents; saddle, \$2.10; horse, \$2.60.

In 1808, the selectmen were instructed to provide "powder, lead, and flints as the law directs."

The poverty of the people and the scarcity of money led to the practice of taking notes in payment for timber sold from the public lots, for the lots when they were sold, and to some extent for taxes due. When money was received by the town, it was loaned in small sums to men in town, often with doubtful security, for want of a better mode of investment. In 1810, New Chester held notes to the value of \$2,217, one as small as \$68. This system brought into the hands of the town a large number of promises to pay. The collection of the principal and interest was the source of great trouble to the authorities, and this subject frequently came up for consideration in town meeting. Carr Huse was made a committee to hold these notes and collect interest and principal when due.

In 1816, there was a proposition before the town of New Chester to exchange that portion of its territory lying west of Newfound river and lake for that part of Alexandria lying south of Smith's river. This exchange would have greatly improved the symmetry of both towns, as will be seen by a glance at the map, but the vote of New Chester was recorded against the proposed change.

In 1816, and again in 1819, the division of the town was considered, and each time the action of the town was against the proposed movement. The latter year, Eben. Kimball was elected an agent to oppose the taking of any part of the territory of New Chester for the new town.

During the thirty-one years and more since the division of New Chester, the old town and the new had made material progress. Two villages had sprung into existence; that now known as Hill village, and Bridgewater village, on the banks of Newfound river, now Bristol. The former had its store, its saw-mill and grist-mill, its carding- and fulling-mills, which brought custom from many miles distant, and a church. Union bridge had been constructed across the Pemigewasset river at Hill village, and from this point the New Chester and Danbury pike had



been opened to George's mills in Danbury. Public highways had been opened and many new settlers had found homes within the town. The people were intelligent and progressive. For many years a circulating library had been sustained. School-houses stood in various parts of the town, and the schools were generously supported. A post-office had been established and at this time, 1819, Ebenezer Kimball was postmaster.

In Bridgewater, as in New Chester, the hard labor of the husbandman had changed many acres of forest into fertile fields, while at Bridgewater village, manufactures and trade had become important adjuncts in the growth of the town. The second story of the first blacksmith shop in town, where is now Cavis's store, was utilized as a hatter's shop; a second blacksmith shop stood where is now Post-office block; while a third stood where the Abel block now stands. John Tolford, Jr., and Thomas Dunlap were in trade where is now White's block. Joseph Fowler had opened a harness shop in a small building next to the bridge where a larger one now stands. Ichabod C. Bartlett had outgrown the little room in the log cabin of Sherburn Tilton, for a store, and was doing a larger and more prosperous business in a wooden building very nearly in the center of the square, while the log cabin itself had given way to a two-story tavern. A saw-mill and a grist-mill had been erected on the south side of the river, and the saw-mill and the grist-mill on the north side had given way to a tannery. Another tannery was in operation on Pleasant street, near the river, in connection with a large shoe shop, and Jonathan Powers was operating a fulling-mill where is now C. N. Merrill's grist-mill. Dr. Timothy Kelley and Dr. Benj. Gale had served the people, and removed; Dr. Walter I. Wardrobe, after a brief practice, had met a tragic fate, and Dr. Samuel Smith attended to the health of the community. A post-office was presided over by Moses H. Bradley, Esq., while this gentleman and Jerahmeel Bowers, Esq., divided the legal business of the town. The Pemigewasset bridge had been erected at the northeast part of the town, and Mayhew turnpike constructed. A church had been erected on the turnpike, and the construction of the red schoolhouse on Lake street commenced, while twenty-six dwellings furnished homes or the people in the village.

Such is a hasty glance of the growing village of Bridgewater in 1819. A more detailed account of the factors in the growth of the town is given elsewhere, but this sketch shows that along Newfound river were elements of growth which, if united under one town government, were destined to result in a more prosperous community than could be otherwise.

The people of Bridgewater village were a unit in favor of a new town, and meetings of the citizens were held to discuss measures to further the scheme. At one of these meetings Capt.

James Minot proposed that the new town should be called Bristol, after an English town of that name. Capt. Minot was a man of influence; no one proposed a better name, and so it was decided then and there that Bristol should be the name of the new town.

When the legislature assembled in June, 1819, a petition was presented praying for the incorporation of Bristol. This petition was favorably acted upon, and June 24, 1819, an act incorporating the southern part of Bridgewater and the northern part of New Chester into a new town by the name of Bristol was passed.

The name of New Chester was changed Jan. 14, 1837, to Hill, in honor of Hon. Isaac Hill, then governor of the state. The town was disannexed from Grafton county July 1, 1868 and made a part of Merrimack county.

## CHAPTER VIII

### BRISTOL FROM ITS INCORPORATION TILL THE PUBLICATION OF THIS HISTORY

Man, through all ages of revolving time,  
Unchanging man, in every varying clime,  
Deems his own land of every land the pride,  
Beloved of heaven o'er all the world beside :  
His home, the spot of earth supremely blest,  
A dearer, sweeter spot than all the rest.

—*Montgomery.*

The following is a copy of the act of incorporation by which the town of Bristol was brought into being :

#### State of New Hampshire.

##### I. S.

In the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen.

An act to incorporate the inhabitants of the northerly part of New Chester and southerly part of Bridgewater into a separate town by the name of Bristol.

WHEREAS, a petition signed by a number of the inhabitants of Bridgewater and New Chester in the county of Grafton praying to be incorporated into a separate town has been presented to the General Court and the prayer thereof appearing reasonable, therefore

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened that all the inhabitants and lands of said Bridgewater lying south of and comprehended within the following limits viz., beginning at Pemigewasset river at the south east corner of lot 38 in the first division of lots in said Bridgewater, thence running to the north east corner of Lot 66 in the third division, thence northerly running to the easterly side of lots numbered 90 and 78 to the north east corner of lot numbered 78, in the second division, thence to the south east corner of lot No. 69, in the second division, thence northerly to the north east corner of said lot No. 69, thence westerly on the range line to Newfound lake, and also comprehending all that part of New Chester which lies northerly of Smith's river, so called, be and the same are incorporated into a town by the name of Bristol, and the inhabitants who now reside, or shall hereafter reside within the aforementioned boundaries are made and constituted a body politic and corporate and invested with all the powers, privileges and immunities which other towns in this state are entitled to enjoy.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted that the corporate property of the towns of Bridgewater and New Chester which is now situated within the above described boundaries and territory, or the avails thereof shall belong to said Bristol, but the right or interest which any person has in any school house in said Bridgewater and New Chester shall not be assessed by this act.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted that the inhabitants of that part of

said Bridgewater which is by this act included in said town of Bristol shall continue to enjoy unimpaired by this act their present right of passing and repassing on the Mayhew turnpike toll free.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, that James Minot, I. C. Bartlett and Joseph Flanders, or any two of them, shall call the annual and first meeting of the inhabitants of said Bristol.

Matthew Harvey, Speaker.

In Senate, June 24, 1819.

The foregoing bill was brought up, read a third time, and enacted.

Jona. Harvey, Pres.

June 24, 1819. Approved.

Samuel Bell, Gov.

On the twenty-first day of February, 1820, the three men named in the act of incorporation united in the call for the first town meeting. This warrant read as follows :

State of New Hampshire. Grafton SS.

L. S.

This is to notify and warn all the freeholders and other inhabitants of the town of Bristol, qualified by law to vote in town meetings, to meet at the school house in Bristol village on Tuesday the fourteenth day of March, next, at nine of the clock, a. m., to act on the following articles :

1st. To choose a moderator.

2nd. To choose a town clerk, selectmen, town treasurer, constables, surveyors of highways, surveyors of lumber, tithingmen, inspectors of schools, fence viewers, sealers of leather, sealers of weights and measures, hogheeves, collector of taxes, cordors of wood, cullers of staves, field drivers, and all other town officers thought proper.

3rd. To vote for governor, councillor for the county of Grafton, senator for district No. 11, county treasurer, and register of deeds for the county of Grafton.

4th. To choose one man duly qualified to represent this town in the General Court the year ensuing.

5th. To see how much money the town will raise for the support of schools, for repair of highways, and to defray town charges the year ensuing.

6th. To choose a committee to divide the town into school districts.

7th. To see if the town will make bylaws to prevent swine from running at large in Bristol village within the following limits : westerly by Newfound river to Walter Sleeper's, northerly to the turnpike gate, east to Jeremiah Hubbard's, and south to David Cheney's.

8th. To see if the town will allow the account of Joseph Flanders and others.

Given under our hands and seal at Bristol, Feb. 21, 1820.

James Minot,	} Committee.
Ichabod C. Bartlett,	
Joseph Flanders,	

The full records of this town meeting are as follows :

Town Meeting, March 14, 1820.

Agreeable to the foregoing warrant met at the time and place therein



notified, and after reading the act of incorporation and the warning proceeded by ballot to choose a moderator and Joseph Flanders was chosen.

By request of Elijah Butrick voted that he be excused from paying a poll tax.

Proceeded by ballot to choose a town clerk, and James Minot was chosen and qualified accordingly.

Proceeded by ballot to choose selectmen, and Joseph Flanders, Moses W. Sleeper and John Clough were chosen and qualified accordingly.

Proceeded by ballot to choose a town treasurer, and Ichabod C. Bartlett was chosen and qualified accordingly.

Voted to accept of James Minot and Samuel Sleeper as his bondsmen.

Proceeded by ballot to choose a constable, and Peter Hazelton was chosen and qualified accordingly.

The ballots being called for for governor, councillor, senator, county treasurer, and register of deeds:—

#### For Governor.

Samuel Bell had	91 votes.	John Orr had	5 votes
David Sterret had	1	Robert Smith had	2

#### For Councillor.

Zeduthon Wilson had	70 votes.	John Frank had	27 votes
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#### For Senator.

Abiather B. Bretton had	69 votes.	Thomas Whipple had	27 votes
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#### County Treasurer.

William Webster had	76 votes.	Benjamin Merrill had	21 votes
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#### Register of Deeds.

Ephraim Kingsbury had	70 votes.	John Page, Jr., had	27 votes
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Which were read in open town meeting.

Proceeded by ballot to choose a person to represent the town of Bristol in the legislature of this state the ensuing year and James Minot was chosen.

Chose Moses Sleeper, John Sanborn, Timothy Eastman, Isaac Dodge, Thomas Dimond, Amos Sleeper, Reuben Kidder, Benj. Locke, Jonathan Fellows, Levi Dolloff, Joshua Page, Samuel Tirrell, and Ephraim Merrill surveyors of highway all of whom were qualified accordingly.

Chose Isaac Dodge and John Smith surveyors of lumber they were qualified accordingly.

Proceeded by ballot to choose tithingmen and Thomas Eastman and David Truel were chosen.

Chose Moses H. Bradley, Ichabod C. Bartlett and William Lewis inspectors of schools.

Chose Abraham Dolloff, Daniel Sleeper and Samuel Sleeper fence viewers they were qualified accordingly.

Chose Theophilus Sanborn sealer of leather he was qualified accordingly.

Chose Timothy Eastman sealer of weights and measures, he was qualified accordingly.

Chose Wiseman Truel, Richard Sawyer, John Kidder, Jr., Levi Dolloff, Jonathan Powers, David Sanborn and Timothy Eastman hogreeves all of whom were qualified accordingly except Dolloff.

Chose Ichabod C. Bartlett and Moses H. Bradley corders of wood.

Chose Daniel Cheney and Thomas Dunlap cullers of staves. Daniel Cheney was qualified accordingly.

The collection of taxes was bid off for three cents on a dollar by Walter Sleeper.

Chose Walter Sleeper collector of taxes, and voted to accept Moses Worthen and Benjamin Kidder as his bondsmen.

Voted to raise one hundred and fifty dollars in addition to what the law requires for the support of schools.

Voted to raise six hundred dollars to repair highways.

Voted that each man be allowed one dollar per day for work on the highway until the middle of July next and only fifty cents per day after that time.

Voted to raise three hundred and fifty dollars to defray town charges.

Chose Benjamin Locke, Samuel Sleeper, James Minot, Abraham Dolloff and Nathan Sleeper a committee to divide the town into school districts.

Voted that Mrs. Fuller be maintained the ensuing year by the person who will do it for the least sum and to have the use of her cow and two sheep, her bed and bedding and clothing and was struck off to Benjamin Kidder at thirty-four cents per week exclusive of doctor's bills.

Voted that the following resolve be passed :

Resolved, that no swine at any time of the year shall be suffered to go at large in the common or highway in the compact part of Bristol village nor in the roads leading therefrom within the following limits, viz., from the bridge by Dodge inn in said village to Walter Sleeper's on the Newfound river road, from said bridge by Daniels' inn to Jeremiah Hubbard's, from said bridge northerly to the turnpike gate, and from said bridge southerly to Daniel Cheney's on penalty that the owner of the swine so going at large forfeit and pay two dollars for each offence to be recovered by action of debt before any justice of the peace by any hogreeve or inhabitant of said Bristol who will sue for the same with cost of prosecution the one moiety of said penalty to go to the prosecutor and the other moiety to the use of the school district where the offence is committed unless it shall appear that said swine were accidentally out of the owner's inclosure.

There is no signature to this record by the clerk.

List of persons assessed for taxes in Bristol in the spring of 1820 :

#### District No. 1.

John Merrill	Jonathan Merrill, Jr.
Widow Mary Merrill	Robert Smith
John H. Sanborn	Maj. T. H. Sanborn
Nathan Sleeper	David Truell
Jeremiah Hubbard	George W. Truell
John R. Ellis	Joshua Page
Wiseman Truell	Polly Sanborn

#### District No. 2.

Moses Bennett	I. C. Bartlett
Peter Sleeper	William Keezer
David Sleeper	Nester Young
Daniel Cheney	J. Bowers, Esq.
Isaac Dodge	Caleb Sawyer
William Lewis	R. H. Sawyer
N. S. Berry	J. Flanders
Nathaniel R. Clark	Robert Brown
Joseph Fowler	Walter Sleeper
John Hale	Jonathan Powers

Seth Daniels  
 Timothy Eastman  
 John Tolford  
 Thomas Dunlap  
 Moses H. Bradley  
 Peter Hazelton  
 Dr. Samuel Smith  
 James Minot

Stephen Simonds  
 Daniel Sanborn  
 Samuel Sleeper  
 Fry Holt  
 David Simonds  
 Samuel Russell  
 Mrs. Betsey Sleeper

## District No. 3.

Josiah Herbert  
 Samuel Worthen  
 Moses Worthen  
 Edward Eastman  
 Moses W. Sleeper  
 Benjamin Hall

David Eaton  
 Robert Heath  
 David Foster  
 Jonathan Huntington  
 Levi Nelson  
 Reuben Kidder

## District No. 4.

Daniel Kidder  
 Rowell Straw  
 Josiah Fellows  
 Jonathan Fellows  
 Benjamin Emmons, Jr.  
 Samuel Heath

Samuel Heath, Jr.  
 Samuel Worthen, Jr.  
 Samuel Hoyt  
 Moses Heath  
 John Huse

## District No. 5.

Reuben Emmons  
 Robert Moore  
 David Mason  
 Levi Dolloff  
 John Gordon

Ephm. Merrill  
 Abraham Dolloff  
 Joseph Brown  
 S. T. Brown  
 John Cilley

## District No. 6.

Jonah Tirrell  
 Samuel Tirrell  
 John Tirrell  
 Daniel Tirrell  
 Jacob Gurdy  
 Elisha Gurdy  
 Benj. Locke  
 Favor Locke  
 Benj. Kidder, Jr.  
 Benj. Sanborn

William Sanborn  
 Smith Powell  
 Samuel Gurdy  
 John Gurdy  
 Amos Drew  
 Samuel Brown  
 Moses Emmons  
 Salley Tirrell  
 John Kidder, Jr.

## District No. 7.

John Clough  
 Moses Sleeper  
 Daniel Sleeper

Jeremiah Bean  
 Person How  
 Robert Downing

## District No. 8.

Edmond Brown	Josiah Fellows
David Cheney	Levi Fuller
David Cheney, Jr.	Jonth. Ingalls
Josiah Fellows, Jr.	Isaac Sweat
Thos. Dimond	John Pattee
Peter Fellows	

## District No. 9.

Moses Atwood	Gilman Ingalls
Samuel T. W. Sleeper	William Mudgett
John Sleeper	Widow Nancy Ferrin
Moses Sleeper	Col. Samuel Sleeper
Asa Hastings	Moses Atwood, Jr.
Jonas Hastings	Jona. Atwood

The first town meeting was held in the little schoolhouse that stood on the west side of North Main street, just north of the hotel. The next town meeting, held in October following, was called to meet in the Methodist chapel on North Main street, near the base of Sugar hill, and there all town meetings were held from that time until the present town house was erected.

The people of this new town were highly pleased with themselves and their bright prospects. They believed that the town was destined to become in the near future the most important in this section of the state. They even deluded themselves with the belief that the legislature would recognize their importance by making Bristol one of the shire-towns of the county. Accordingly, at the annual meeting held in 1822, it was voted to raise sufficient money to construct a court-house, in addition to what might be raised by private subscription, provided the legislature should vote to remove the court-house from Plymouth to Bristol. Richard H. Sawyer, Joseph Flanders, and N. S. Berry were elected a committee to receive subscriptions. Nothing came of this movement, however, and the court-house still remains at Plymouth.

Jan. 3, 1822, the will of Thomas W. Thompson, of Concord, was proved. Mr. Thompson was a large owner of real estate in Bristol and elsewhere, nearly all of which property he willed for charitable purposes. To the town of Bristol he devised three lots of land for the purpose of building a meeting-house of the Congregational or Presbyterian order, and establishing a fund for the support of preaching.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Thompson was also owner of the greater part of the mill lot in this village

<sup>1</sup>This subject is treated more at length in the history of the Congregational church.



(Lot. 61); a lot of land lying north of the mill lot which he had purchased of William Pattee; the mills, machinery, tools and buildings on said land; the south half of Lot 25, Third Division, and a part of Lot 88. One-half of all this property he willed to Dartmouth college, for the support of a professorship of the Greek and Latin languages; one-fourth to the New Hampshire Missionary society, and one-fourth to the American Education society.

At the annual town meeting of 1823, a petition was presented, signed by many of the inhabitants of the southeast part of Alexandria, praying Bristol to endorse a movement to have that part of Alexandria annexed to Bristol. The town voted to accept the portion named if the legislature would make the transfer. The same question came up once or twice in later years, but did not result in changing the town lines. In 1829, the town voted to accept a portion of the town of Bridgewater in the same way, but nothing came of that movement. It was voted not to allow horses and cattle to run at large, under a penalty of two dollars for each offense, and to allow Gilman Ingalls five dollars for a bad bill he took the year previous while collecting taxes. In 1830, the town appropriated \$100 for the repair of the old Methodist chapel on condition that it should still be used by the town for town meetings.

Three public lots came within the limits of the town of Bristol. Lot No. 1, Third Division, was a school lot, and was sold by Bridgewater, in 1798, to John Harriman for \$201. The proceeds of this sale were probably used for the benefit of the schools of the town at that time, so that Bridgewater had no corporate funds from the sale of this lot to turn over to Bristol. In that portion of New Chester now Bristol, there was a school lot, No. 37, Third Division, on Smith's river, sold in 1791, and "a point of land on the westerly side of the lake and a small island opposite" which was a parsonage lot. Bristol claimed the avails of the sale of these lots, and New Chester was not disposed to pay. This subject came up in town meeting several times, and, in 1826, the selectmen were instructed to adjust the matter, but not to accept a dollar less than the claim of the town, which was \$444.52. No satisfactory settlement being effected, Bristol brought suit and recovered \$505.17, and \$66.71 as costs. This was paid in January, 1829. Bristol applied the amount received as costs towards the current expenses of the town; \$405.17 was appropriated for a school fund, and the balance, \$100, went into the town treasury as a ministerial fund, and is the money on which Bristol is still paying the annual interest of six dollars to the churches of Bristol.

In 1836, Congress voted to divide among the several states, in four installments, the surplus revenue of the government (\$36,000,000), the same to be repaid to the general government

if called for. The proportion that was to be paid to New Hampshire was \$892,115.71. New Hampshire passed an act Jan. 13, 1837, distributing this money among the towns of the state, one-half in proportion to the valuation, and one-half according to the ratable polls, the same to be refunded to the state if called for. The first installment paid to New Hampshire was \$223,-028.93. No records in town can be found showing the amount that Bristol received, and the state treasurer made no record for the use of the state; or, as claimed, the state record was later purposely destroyed. In the *New Hampshire Patriot* of Feb. 13, 1837, however, the state treasurer published the amount that each town was entitled to receive under the first distribution, and it is there stated that Bristol was entitled to \$656.85. It is to be presumed, therefore, that this amount was paid to Bristol. Two other payments were made to the state, and presumably to the several towns, each of the same amount as the first. The fourth payment was never made by the general government, owing to a threatened war with England.

At the annual town meeting in 1837, Nathaniel S. Berry was appointed the agent of the town to receive this money, and he was authorized to pledge the faith of the town for its security. At the same time the town voted that the money should be placed in the town treasury and loaned by the selectmen to residents of the town in sums of not more than \$200, nor less than twenty-five dollars, for no longer time than one year.

The very next year, however, the town was in financial straits. The court had ordered the construction of a road from Jonathan Merrill's to Smith's river (See Highways), and the town voted to take its surplus money to pay for the construction of this road.

In 1843, the question, "Should capital punishment be abolished?" was submitted to the people, and the vote in Bristol was, Yes, 29; No, 91.

The subject of a town hall first came up in town meeting in 1841, and for eight years was a bone of contention. It was first voted not to buy the old Methodist chapel for a town hall; then it was voted to see what the chapel could be bought for. A vote was then passed to build in connection with an academy if parties could agree; if not, to build alone. In March, 1846, it was voted to take \$300 of the money received from the sale of the poor-farm and raise \$200 in addition for a town hall; Caleb S. Beede, Joseph Moore, and S. S. Merrill were elected a committee to build the house. Sept. 5, 1846, a special meeting was held to consider the subject. A new committee of three was elected to ascertain what the old chapel could be bought for, and the old committee was discharged. Later, at this same meeting, the selectmen were instructed to purchase a building lot of "Mrs. Bradley." In 1848, it was voted not to build; but

in March, 1849, a committee of three, consisting of S. C. Brown, Levi Bartlett, and Joseph Moore, was chosen to draft plans for a town house to cost not more than \$1,200; to raise by taxation \$500, and to hire, if necessary, \$700 more. This committee went ahead without further instruction, and built a town house that year, on Summer street, Caleb S. Beede being the builder. The first town meeting was held in the new hall in March, 1850.

The building as originally constructed was 45 x 54 feet. The entrance was from a porch 14 x 13 feet. On the west of the porch was the selectmen's room 14 1-2 x 13 feet; on the east was another room of the same size used as a wood room and for the stairway to the attic. The hall had a floor space of the same width as the porch, extending north and south, and on both sides were fixed pine benches on the amphitheater style. At the north end was a platform about eight feet square, raised about eighteen inches above the floor. This platform was surrounded by matched boards three feet or more high, which kept the voters from crowding upon the town officials at town meetings. When the young people gave a theatrical entertainment, a stage was built above the seats on the east side, and the floor space was filled with settees.

In 1872, the hall was enlarged. An addition of twenty feet was added to the building on the north, the floor was relaid on a level, and a stage twelve feet wide was made, extending across the north end. On the south, about ten feet of the porch and rooms on both sides were added to the hall, leaving only a narrow room for ticket office on the west, and a storeroom on the east. At the northwest corner, a selectmen's room 11 x 15 feet was constructed, which has since been enlarged to 11 x 27 feet. These improvements cost \$2,000. The attic over the hall has been used as an armory for the local military companies, for meetings of fraternal societies, and for other purposes.

The lockup, that stands at the northeast corner of the town hall, was built in 1891. Its dimensions are 12 x 28 feet, and it contains two cells. Since its erection, it has been used but a few times for the confinement of criminals, sometimes a year having passed without a commitment for a violation of the law. It has been used chiefly for the accommodation of tramps. Previous to the erection of this building, the town first hired the south end of the basement of Fowler's block, on the east side of Central square, for a lockup. As time passed on and there was no call for its use, the town sublet the room for a meat market. Later, however, two cells, in the attic of the town hall, was fitted up.

The growing liberality of the times towards debtors is seen in the expression of the town in 1850, when the vote in favor of the exemption of the homestead from attachment was 100; against, 63.



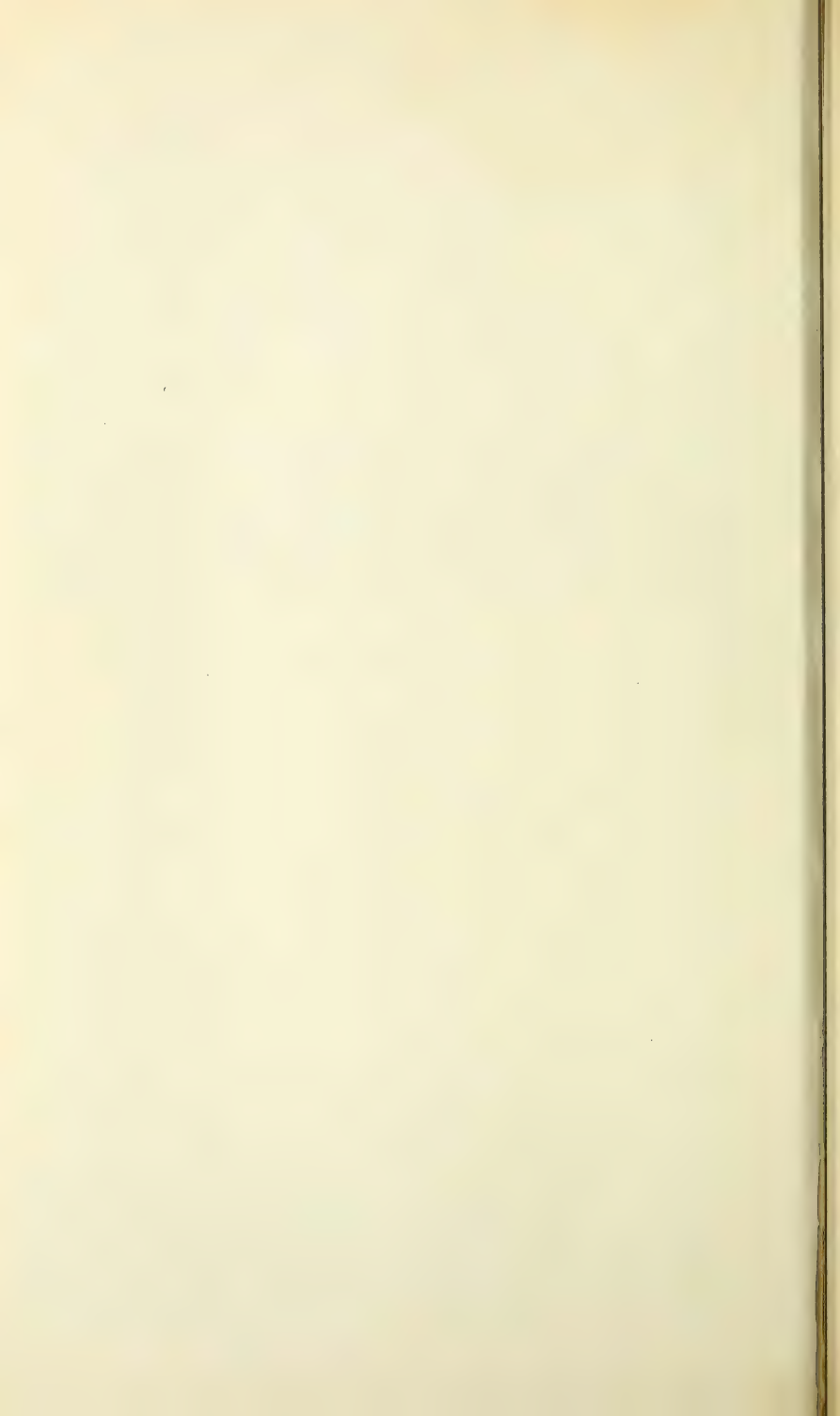


ENGINE HOUSE ERECTED 1889



TOWN HALL ERECTED 1848





The indebtedness of the town reached its highest point in 1867, when it was \$35,076. This large amount was nearly all contracted in paying bounties to fill the quota of the town under the various calls of the President of the United States for men during the Civil war.<sup>1</sup> In 1876, \$10,000 of the debt was bonded to run not over twenty years at five per cent. interest, exempt from taxation. This debt was decreased each year, with a few exceptions, till 1889, when it was \$123; in 1895, there was a balance in the treasury of \$1,992. After this date, the surplus was wiped out and a debt again created, owing principally to large expenditures for the improvement of highways. In 1900, the town issued bonds to the amount of \$15,000, bearing interest at the rate of three per cent. payable in five, ten, and fifteen years without taxation in town. The money raised by these bonds was expended in macadamizing certain streets. (See Highways.) In 1901, the net indebtedness of the town, in excess of bonds outstanding, was \$7,487. Feb. 15, 1902, the indebtedness was \$3,817 in addition to its bonds of \$15,000.

In 1879, an act passed the legislature legalizing the acts of the selectmen of 1877, in assessing the taxes that year, and of the collector in collecting the same. The only reason for this was the fact that the collector sold that year a certain piece of real estate at auction for non-payment of taxes, and the purchaser, wishing to place his title beyond question, secured the passage of the act.

The policy of the town has always been to encourage manufacturing industries. In keeping with this principle, it voted, in 1872, to exempt Messrs. Holden & Co. from additional taxation for ten years, if that company would double its capacity for manufacturing flannels. This exemption has been voted in several cases since.

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<sup>1</sup>The action of the town during the Civil war is treated at length in a chapter by itself, as are several other subjects, the better to give a connected history of each.

## CHAPTER IX.

### EARLY CONDITIONS, CUSTOMS, AND RECREATIONS OF THE PEOPLE

Progress, man's distinctive mark alone,  
Not God's, and not the beasts'; God is, they are;  
Man partly is, and wholly hopes to be.

—*Browning.*

When the first settlers made their homes in New Chester, they found the country wooded with a heavy growth of primeval forest. The trees were of immense size, and many of the pines were "fit for his Majesty's masts." The woods abounded in a great variety of game; water-fowls swarmed on the lakes, and the lakes and rivers teemed with the finest fish. Vast numbers of salmon crowded the Pemigewasset, having parted company with the shad in their upward course where this river unites with the Winnepesaukee, the shad going up the last named stream.

The game consisted of a large variety of animals. Moose roamed the woods, and were occasionally killed, though they quickly scented the advance of man into their domain and hied themselves to more distant forests. The last moose dispatched in this section was killed by Cutting Favor some years after his settlement here. Bears were so plentiful that incessant war was waged against them. Because of their depredations, the raising of sheep was, for many years, well-nigh impossible; they frequently killed the pig or hog in the pen, and even attacked cows or young cattle. Powder and lead were hard to obtain, and, for the bear, trapping was generally resorted to. The steel trap was used by those fortunate enough to possess one, while many persons constructed a trap called the "figure four." This was so called by reason of its shape. It consisted of a long, narrow pen of logs open at one end, where bait was placed. A heavy log was suspended over the bait, and the bear, in endeavoring to obtain the bait, loosened the log from its position and was killed or imprisoned by its fall. Tom Locke, who settled on the Solon Dolloff farm, killed sixteen bears during one fall on Briar hill, near his home.

Deer were also very plentiful. A great resort for this fine animal was, before the construction of the present road to South Alexandria, the low land between Newfound river and where is now the cemetery. Foxes were numerous, and made havoc

with the fowls. The howling of wolves, that traveled in packs at night, and the cry of the catamount and lynx, were no uncommon sounds. The coon, woodchuck, porcupine, skunk, rabbit, and a variety of squirrels helped to fill the long catalogue of wild animals.

The clearing of the land required a vast amount of labor. The usual process was to cut half or two-thirds through each tree on a piece of land to be cleared, and, when all was ready, to fell one large tree against those nearest it, which would cause them to fall; those in turn would carry down others, and so the whole would be carried to the ground. This was called "driving a piece." The trees were allowed to lie one season to dry, when they were burned. The ashes from these great fires constituted a dressing for the land, and large crops of rye or wheat were raised the first season on such land. The potato was little used when the first settlers thus cleared the land, and it was only when, in later years, it became known that immense potato crops could be raised on this new land, that the potato came to be appreciated.

The homes of the first settlers were of the rudest kind, affording none of the luxuries and scarcely any of the comforts even of those days. A rude hut of hemlock bark was frequently their abode for months, while a more permanent home was being constructed. The last mentioned was invariably a log cabin, usually sixteen feet square and of two rooms, but frequently smaller and of but one room. The walls were of logs, hewn or unhewn, with the cracks filled with mud. The roof was a rude frame covered with hemlock bark or split shingles, the floor usually the bare earth. A few panes of glass, brought from the settlements down the river, and the open door afforded the usual light, while in some of the poorer cabins, sheepskin was used in place of glass.<sup>1</sup> A large fireplace at one end or side was connected with a chimney, usually made of stones, on the outside. Wood was plenty, and huge fires lighted up the interior and furnished heat in cold weather. Besides this, the "tallow dip," or the pine knot, was the only artificial light. Cooking was done over the open fireplace, or over a fire outdoors,<sup>2</sup> and only the rudest cooking utensils were used. As time passed on, and the settlers had some time to devote to the comforts of life, timber was cut and drawn to the saw-mill, one, two, or ten miles distant, as the case might be, and sawed into boards or lumber. Then, the comforts of a board floor and other improvements were enjoyed.

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Hannah Simonds says she can remember when her father's log cabin and several others had sheepskin windows.

<sup>2</sup> On a large rock by the roadside in the Borough may still be seen the marks of the fire where Ebenezer Carlton's family did their cooking for years after they settled there.



It was some years before a frame house was constructed in New Chester. Cutting Favor was perhaps the first to take this advanced step. He was possessed of more means than most of the early settlers, and he erected a saw-mill, just north of his house, on the stream that attracted his attention when he first visited this region. Here he sawed his lumber. After building a one-story house for himself, he erected a two-story house for each of his sons as they settled in life. The first was built about 1780 on Murray hill, now occupied by the heirs of the Rev. Dr. Murdock as a summer home; another in Grafton for his son Jacob; one in Hill village for his son Isaac, and still another, about 1800, on the New Hampton side of the river for his son Moses. All are still standing. The last mentioned is an old weather-beaten, two-story structure on the east bank of the Pemigewasset, and can be readily seen from the train when just north of Smith's river.

In 1783, there were three hundred and sixty-three inhabitants in New Chester and but twenty-six framed houses in this territory, thus showing that the majority of the people still lived in log houses. There is not probably, a framed house still standing in Bristol that was erected as early as 1783. A few still remain that were built as early as 1800, or before, among them being the farmhouse of the late Aaron Sleeper, built in 1797; the Green house and the Fisk house, in Central square, both built soon after 1790; two stories of the Emerson block, built in 1797; the small house on Summer street now owned by William G. Kelley, built in 1799; the house owned by Fred H. Briggs, and the Boardman house adjoining, on High street, built by the Cheney's soon after 1790; the "tannery house" at the junction of Lake and Willow streets, built in 1800, by John Sleeper, and the J. M. R. Emmons farmhouse, built about 1785, or soon after. This is probably the oldest house in town.

The first frame houses were usually of one story, though the large two-story square house was frequently seen. The kitchen was the largest room in the house and was usually the work room, living room, play room, and visiting room combined. A door usually opened into this room from the outside. The kitchen contained an immense fireplace often seven feet long by three deep. On a winter day a vast amount of wood was consumed. There was a back-log, three or four feet long and from ten to fifteen inches in diameter, and in front were the fire dogs on which was the forestick with small wood on top. This made a great fire that heated every part of the room except in the coldest weather. Then the entire family were obliged to huddle about the fire to keep warm. Over the fireplace hung the flint-lock musket, and into the beams overhead were driven iron hooks which supported long poles on which clothes were

sometimes hung to dry, and which in the fall and winter were full of long strings of peppers, of apple, or pumpkin to dry. Those who could afford it had a dresser in which were kept the pewter plates, platters, and teapot, while in other homes the wooden bowls and plates were kept on a rude shelf when not in use. The steel, flint, and tow were requisites in every home till the introduction of matches, about 1833. At first, rude benches were the only seats in many homes, but these early gave way to the hand-made chairs, so thoroughly constructed that some still exist that did service one hundred years ago. The round table, that could be made into an arm chair for the head of the family, was a very common piece of furniture. Many of the household utensils were hard-made. Dried gourds were made into cups, dippers, and sugar bowls; pails, buckets, and tubs were made by self-taught coopers; while the spoons for the table were of pewter or lead, cast in molds that did service for the entire community.<sup>1</sup> The kitchen frequently contained a bed for the husband and wife, while the children were generally given a place to sleep under the roof above.

All the food was the product of the farm, the woods, or the waters of the vicinity. Farmers raised their own wheat, corn, and rye, and not a bushel was ever imported. Bean porridge, hasty pudding, Indian pudding, hominy, bread and milk, corn bread, and wheat bread were the staple articles of food the year round. Pork was the usual meat, varied occasionally by poultry or mutton. Fresh beef during the summer months was almost unknown, while the potato was as yet little used. In the early winter a steer or cow was sometimes killed to be frozen for use during the winter or salted for the coming year. Then, too, were killed the hogs, mostly for market, some for winter use, and some for the pork barrel, while sausage making, dipping or running candles, were a prominent part of the labor of the household for some time after the slaughtering season began. Butter, cheese, and cider-apple sauce were daily articles the year round. The food of the table was sometimes varied by the fruit of the chase or with fine fish from the streams or lakes of the vicinity.

With the advent of frame houses came conveniences and comforts not known before. The chimneys, made of brick and laid in clay, were of immense proportions so as to afford a large fireplace in two or more rooms and a brick oven. This oven was sometimes five feet square, and was connected with the chimney by a flue. In these ovens, usually once a week, a fire was kept till the bricks were hot, and then most of the baking for a week was done, including the never-failing pot of beans and pork. Potatoes were baked there or on the hot coals. The

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<sup>1</sup> Mrs. R. S. Hastings has a pair of spoon moulds once owned by her grandfather, Ebenezer Carleton, that did service in the Borough.

Dutch oven had a career of many years. This oven was an iron pot, with a rim around the cover projecting up an inch or more. In this pot the dough was put, the oven was placed on the live coals, and other coals were placed on the cover. This made a good substitute for the modern oven. The tin baker was a more modern invention. With its cover on, all parts of the bread, the beef, the chicken, or the turkey to be cooked were covered, except that next to the fire, as it stood on the hearth. It was so arranged that the contents could be frequently turned to the fire, thus ensuring an even heat. The "lug-pole" held the pots and kettles over the fire when cooking was done outdoors; it was also used to some extent in the cabins. It needed constant watching, lest the fire should so burn or weaken it that the contents of the kettles would be dumped into the fire. This early gave way, in the cabins, to the iron crane in the fireplace, hung in such a manner that it could be swung out into the room, and pots and kettles, by means of pothooks, could be kept as near the fire as desired. With these, the frying-pan, the spit, and other facilities, the thrifty housewife could do the cooking as satisfactorily as can be done to-day with the better facilities at hand.

Those who boasted of a carpet, made of rags and woven on the family loom, for the "spare room," were very few indeed. The unpainted floor was usually as white as scrubbing could make it, and was covered with white sand from the bank of the river or shore of the lake. The tin peddler, with his shining tins and Shaker brooms, had not yet made his appearance, and when the good housewife needed a new broom, it was made of fir, spruce, or hemlock boughs tied to a handle cut in the woods for that purpose.

But few pictures adorned the walls. Silhouettes or profile likenesses were sometimes found, but even these were scarce. In most families, the Bible was read daily, and the children were religiously instructed in the catechism. Many, even non-church-members, were scrupulously exact in having their children baptized in infancy, and a record of the ceremony made in the family Bible. The children were carefully instructed in their behavior at home and abroad, and paid due respect to age and position. When the minister or the village squire passed, the children ceased their labor or their play; the girls made a courtesy, and the boys, cap in hand, made a bow. *Leavitt's Almanac* was a yearly visitor to the homes, and was frequently consulted in regard to the weather; but the weekly newspaper was rare in the homes of any neighborhood.

When the "spare room" did not contain a fireplace, the bed was warmed in cold weather with the warming-pan. This was a round pan usually made of brass with a cover and long handle. When filled with live coals, and passed between the flax



or woollen sheets, it changed the temperature of the bed materially. The foot-stove was a tin box in which live coals were carried to church or placed in the sleigh to keep the feet warm.

The usual mode of travel was on horseback. The saddle was frequently made with the pillion to carry double. It was not till about 1800 that the two-wheeled chaise with its thorough-braces of leather made its appearance in New Chester. Cutting Favor is said to have been the first person in town to own this vehicle.

The shoemaker and the tailor in their work traveled from house to house and made the shoes for the family or the clothes for the men and boys to last a year.

Fast-day was strictly observed as a day of fasting and prayer. All work was suspended and the people generally attended divine service. Thanksgiving was a day preeminently for family reunions and good cheer, with often a shooting match or a turkey shoot for a diversion. The turkey was set up, so many rods distant, to be shot at, at a stated price per shot, and if blood were drawn, the person firing became the owner of the bird. Squirrel hunts took place each fall, when sides were chosen, and every owner of a gun took to the woods on a given day. Each bird or animal killed counted so many points. Later all participants and their ladies enjoyed a supper, which the losing contestants paid for.

Women and girls, as well as men and boys, frequently went barefooted when about their work in the summer-time, and it was a common practice for children, and no uncommon thing for men, to go barefooted to church.<sup>1</sup>

The clothes the people wore, as well as the food they ate, were the products of the farm. The hand cards, the spinning-wheel, and the hand loom were important adjuncts in all families that could afford them. The wool from the sheep or the flax from the garden was carded into rolls by the use of the hand cards, then spun on the wheel and woven into cloth on the loom. The hand cards early gave way to the power carding machine which made the wool into rolls, which were in turn, at the homes, made into yarn for the loom or knitting. Sheep's grey, made by mixing white and black wool, was the well-nigh universal material used in making men's clothes. There was but little difference, if any, between a summer and a winter suit. Clothes made of wool or flax, though of lighter weight, were also as generally worn by the women. The handicraft of women's work was frequently seen in coloring, either before or after weaving. To be proficient in the making of yarn and cloth, was one of the highest accomplishments of the period.

<sup>1</sup> At the Borough, the choir when singing stood in the open space between the door and the seats of the schoolroom, and Samuel Tirrell, one of the singers, was usually barefooted.



Many fine specimens of table-cloths and bedspreads still exist which were made by the expert workers of those days, which are the delight and wonder of the present generation.

Sugar making came in the early spring, when the warm days and cold nights made the sap of the sugar-maple flow. This was gathered from the buckets at the trees and carried to the sugar-camp in the woods by means of a wooden yoke over the shoulders, from each end of which was suspended a pail. At the camp, the sap was boiled in huge kettles over an open fire, and, when reduced to syrup, it was carried to the kitchen, where it was still further boiled. It was then sometimes stirred dry for table use, but usually made into cakes or poured into tubs to cool, for the market or for use during the year. In many families not a pound of sugar was purchased at the stores during the entire year, the product of the sugar-orchard being the only kind used.

Later in the spring came soap-making, when the waste grease was tried out and boiled with the lye from the ash barrel, and a sufficient amount of soft soap was made to last a year.

This was the age of the wall builders. After the forests had been cleared away, then commenced the clearing of the land of the loose stone. This was continued till after the land was laid down to grass, and thus on the old farms are found miles of stone wall, much of it four feet wide and three high, monuments to the indefatigable labors of the farmers of fifty and one hundred years ago.

Diversions were few. Public gatherings were confined almost entirely to religious meetings, which may be one reason why the people were seemingly more religiously inclined than now. The monotony of home life was also broken by quilting parties, when the women of the neighborhood gathered at the different homes in turn, and made quilts, spun yarns, wove cloth, gathered and discussed the news. In the fall, there were the husking-bees, at which the young, and sometimes the old, of both sexes, gathered to husk the corn. At these huskings in the barn, the only light provided was the tallow dip in the tin lantern with its perforated sides, which gave only a faint light. Later in the season came the paring-bees, when the apples were pared, quartered, and strung to dry. After the work was done at these gatherings, a hearty meal was served in the kitchen, usually of baked beans, pumpkin pies, and other pastry, tea and coffee. Then came the social hour, sometimes with dancing, but usually devoted entirely to playing games, all games having fines, and all fines being paid with a kiss. Then there was, occasionally, the spelling school at the district schoolhouse, when the contest was to see who would stand up the longest, each being obliged to be seated on failing to spell a word correctly. Sometimes sides were chosen, or the

contest was between different districts. The singing-school was a common diversion in which many joined. The singing-master was not a professor from the schools, but one living near-by who was a good singer for those days, had a knowledge of the rudiments of music, and sufficient confidence in himself to teach others all he knew.

Raisings were occasions of much interest. The frame of a building was first put together and then raised, a side at a time; and as all buildings were made of heavy timbers, many strong hands were needed to place them in position. There was no lack of willing hands on such occasions, for intoxicating liquors were freely furnished and, after the work was done, wrestling, lifting stiff-heels, and other contests were engaged in. It is said that when Moses Sleeper raised his first barn, his rum gave out before the work was done, and the crowd, to show its appreciation of the situation, carried the ridge-pole to the bank of the river and there left it. Later, when he raised the frame of his house, he provided a barrel of rum, removed the head, and told the crowd to see if there was not enough to last until the job was finished.

Every member of the community was expected to respond in turn for the care of the sick. No undertakers in those days lightened the burdens of the afflicted. Neighbors performed all these duties when death invaded the home. The dead were robed in the invariable white shroud, and two persons sat guard over the remains each night till the funeral. The custom of furnishing intoxicating liquors at funerals was almost universal before the dawn of the nineteenth century, and for some years later, the quantity and quality of the liquor being governed by the means or liberality of the providing party. A pine coffin, sometimes unpainted, contained the remains of the deceased, and was borne by four men to the grave on the farm or to the near-by graveyard. A long sermon was usually preached by the officiating clergyman, in which the doctrine of eternal punishment was frequently blended in no uncertain words. In the middle of the nineteenth century, the custom of treating at funerals had entirely disappeared, but the minister still took a text and preached a sermon. In Bristol village, the funerals were generally in one of the churches, and those who preferred the sanctity of the home were considered exclusive. On the occurrence of death in town, the people were informed of the fact by the tolling of the bell. At regular intervals for ten, twenty, or thirty minutes, according to the prominence of the deceased, the bell was struck; then came a pause, and the bell struck the age; another pause, and the bell sounded once for a man or twice for a woman. The remains were carried on a wooden bier to the church and to the grave by four men, the friends following on foot. The coffin or casket was covered

with a pall, and the bell was tolled from the time the procession left the church till it returned to the home. For the service of tolling the bell the town paid a fee of twenty-five cents.

In the early years of the nineteenth century, lawyers thrived on a great many small cases rather than on a few important ones as now. Suits were frequently brought for as small a sum as one dollar. No real estate and not an article of personal property was exempt from attachment till 1807, when, in exempting one bedstead, bed and bedding, the clothes necessary for immediate use, a few books, one cow, and one swine, the first step was taken towards the present liberality. To fail in business meant more than the loss of one's property. It frequently resulted in imprisonment in the county jail. Ezekiel Webster, during the first years of the nineteenth century, made a visit to Bristol each month and remained several days on each visit, as counsel in these petty cases.

Every farmer was supposed to make at least one trip to Boston or some other market each year to dispose of the surplus products of the farm. In winter there might be seen almost every day long lines of one-horse pods and pungs and two-horse sleighs winding their slow and tedious course to Boston. Almost invariably these loads were ornamented with one or more dressed frozen hogs on top, uncovered, their legs extended upward as though appealing for help. The body of the load consisted of the surplus products of the farm—poultry, butter, cheese, beans, peas, grain, dried apples on strings, woolen mittens and stockings, woolen yarn and sometimes wool and linen cloth, made by the thrifty women; frequently there were sheep's pelts, furs, the skins of bears, foxes, and deer, and sometimes mutton and venison. Frequently a dozen neighbors started at the same time and kept company on the road. Nearly all carried with them their food—bread, doughnuts, cheese, cooked sausages, and frozen bean porridge. They trudged along on foot, in conversation with one another, or rode standing on the circular step at the back of their pods, or sometimes on top of their loads. When night came they paid ten cents for the privilege of warming their porridge by the tavern fire and sleeping on the barroom floor. The incidental expenses of the trip were largely for toddy, so necessary for every man in those days. Farmers on the road were not termed teamsters. This was an honor reserved for those who made a business of being on the road summer and winter with their four or six horses or oxen, drawing heavy loads of manufactured goods or farm produce to market and returning with rum and other necessary supplies for the country stores. Josiah Fellows for many years drove four yoke of oxen between Bristol and Boston for Moses Lewis, the round trip occupying two weeks; and Stephen Nelson drove a six-horse freight wagon on the same business.



A very common sight in the fall of the year was large droves of cattle that fairly choked the turnpike as they traveled along to market. Western beef in eastern markets was then unknown, and every farm on every hill and in every valley teemed with large herds of cattle. The raising of neat stock, now almost unknown, was then a source of large income to the farmer, and the toll gathered by the gatekeeper for the travel of these cattle over the turnpike, materially increased the receipts of the Mayhew Turnpike corporation. These droves of cattle, when night overtook them on the road, were turned into some field to graze. Jeremiah Prescott made a business of shacking these droves of cattle in the fields now owned by Mrs. S. S. Southard, and his receipts from this source during one season were frequently three hundred dollars.

The custom of binding out boys and even girls during their minority was very common. The compensation was the learning of a trade, or simply their support till of age. Such were called "indented" boys or girls. They were bound by legal papers so that the masters had a legal claim on them during the time specified. As was to be expected, some found kind masters and good homes, while others were abused and overworked. The papers in those days frequently contained advertisements for runaway boys and girls, and sometimes a trifling reward was offered to show the contempt of the masters for the runaways. We present here a contract in such a case as spoken of, and then follow two advertisements clipped from the papers of that day.

This indentor witnesseth that Levi Bean, son of Obediah Bean of Poplin in the county of Rockingham State of New Hampshire cooper by and with consent of his Said Father hath put himself apprentice to Samuel Smith of Bridgewater in the County of Grafton and State of New Hampshire Husbandman with the said Samuel Smith after the manner of an apprentice to Serve from the Day of the Date Hereafter mentioned for and During the Term of four years nine months and twenty-nine days which term the Said apprentice is to serve his Said master faithfully in his Service keep Lawful Company everywhere, and obey. He shall do no damage to his Said Master he shall not waste his Said Masters Goods nor lend them unlawfully to any he Shall not commit Fornication or contract matrimony within Said term without making his Said master's damage thereby Good at Cards Dice or any other unlawful games he Shall not play he Shall not abjoin himself by day or by night from his Said master's servis without his leave nor haunt ale houses taverns or play houses but in all things behave himself as a faithful apprentice ought to Do towards his Said master and towards his Said mistress During Said term.

And the Said Samuel Smith for himself his heirs doth hereby Covenant and promise to find and provide unto Said apprentice Good and wholesome meats and drink and apperil washing Lodging and other necessities both in sickness and health fitting for an apprentice During Said term he will give or cause to be given to Said Apprentice all the winter schooling in my district at the Expiration of Said term to give unto the Said apprentice Eighty dollars and one good new Sute of apperil for all parts of his body and all his old apperil. In testamony



whereof the parties to these presence have hereunto Interchangeable Set their hand, and Seal this twenty-seventh day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven.

Signed Sealed and delivered in  
presence of us

John Scribner  
Phineas Beede

Obediah Bean  
Levi Bean  
Samuel Smith

#### ONE CENT REWARD

Run away from the subscriber on the night of the 16th inst. an indented boy by the name of Samuel Putney, aged seventeen years. Whoever will return said boy shall be entitled to the above reward. All persons are hereby forbid harboring, trusting, or employing said boy as I shall pay no debts of his contracting and shall demand pay for his services if any he does.

Peter Sanborn.

Bridgewater, Jan. 20, 1826.

#### RUN AWAY

Run away from the subscriber, a girl named Mary Ann Mooney Telyne. This is to forbid any person trusting her on my account, as I shall pay no debts of her contracting after this date, and I also forbid any person trusting her on account of the selectmen of Northwood, as I have given them bonds to take care of said girl till she arrives at the age of eighteen years.

George Cross.

Bridgewater, Oct. 12, 1826.

## CHAPTER X

### FORDS, FERRIES, AND TOLL-BRIDGES

He rode through the silent clearings,  
He came to the ferry wide,  
And thrice he called to the boatman,  
Asleep on the other side.

—*Whittier.*

The first bridge erected over the Pemigewasset river within the limits of the old town of New Chester was Union bridge at Hill village. Its first charter was granted in 1801; but the incorporators were slow to act, and, in 1803, the time in which to construct the bridge was extended. The bridge was completed, as nearly as can be learned, as early as 1808. This was the era of building toll-bridges and turnpikes in New Hampshire, and furnished modes of speculation of the day; but like many speculations of a later period, very little profit was realized by the shareholders. The stock of this bridge was of very doubtful value; assessments were made from time to time, and each time the sale of a part of the stock was necessary because of non-payment of the amounts assessed. In 1821, a meeting of the stockholders was held to see if the entire plant should not be sold. The great freshet of 1824 carried off the bridge; and an ice dam, in 1860, or about that time, lifted its successor from its foundations and carried it down stream. By act of the legislature, Dec. 20, 1842, the name of this bridge was changed to Belknap.

Previous to the construction of Union bridge, Tilton Bennett had a ferry just below the site of the bridge. In November, 1798, forty-five of the inhabitants of Sanbornton sent a petition to the General Court asking that Tilton Bennett be granted a ferry at this point. In this paper they state that "Tilton Bennett of Sanbornton has attended a ferry over Pemigewasset River between Sanbornton and New Chester for four years last past and he has been at great expense to provide suitable Boats for said ferry." This statement would fix the date of the establishment of the ferry as 1794. A grant was made to Mr. Bennett as requested, and the ferry was continued till the bridge was constructed.

The rates of toll on the ferry were as follows: Each foot passenger, two cents; horse, three cents; chaise by two horses, ten cents; riding sleigh with one horse, six cents; coach, chaise,

or chariot, for passengers with more than one horse, 20 cents; chariot, twelve cents; cart and two horses, ten cents; additional horse, three cents; neat creature, two cents; sheep, swine, each, one-half cent.

Farther up the Pemigewasset was what is now known as Blake's ferry. At this point on the west bank was the home of Captain Cutting Favor. At an early date Capt. Favor had a private ferry by which to cross the river to his extensive lands and to the home of a son on the east bank. At seasons of low water there was also a ford at this point—from the west bank to the island and from the northern bank of the island to the New Hampton bank. The road from the ford, up the steep bank on the New Hampton side, can still be seen, just south of the old two-story house that still stands there.

At the June session of the legislature in 1797, Captain Favor and his son-in-law, Ebenezer Wells, asked for a charter to build at this point a bridge to be known as the Favor bridge, and the charter was granted.<sup>1</sup> An effort was also made to construct a road from New Holderness to the eastern end of the bridge. Neither project materialized, however, and the ford and ferry continued to be used.

In March, 1802, Rev. David Fisk came from Boscowen and located on the New Hampton side of the Pemigewasset on what is still known as the Fisk farm. Soon afterwards he established a ferry near the mouth of Smith's river. At the foot of Bristol falls, nearly opposite the present engine-house of the Boston & Maine railroad, there was a ferry owned and operated by Peter Sleeper. These two ferries, being connected by a road on the east bank of the river, took a part of the travel between Hill and Bristol. Just north of the engine-house site there was a ford; but owing to the swiftness of the river it was not generally used. Daniel Kelley, of New Hampton, was drowned here in 1813, while attempting to ford the stream. He was returning home from a muster in New Chester, when his horse misstepped into deep water.

The next crossing up the river, before the construction of Central bridge, was at a ford nearly opposite the present residence of Solon Dolloff. This ford was called the Worthen ford, from the fact that Samuel Worthen owned the land on the eastern side, since known as the Robinson farm. The road to the ford left the Plymouth road near the Danforth house, east of Danforth's brook, and followed the low land until the river was reached, and can be plainly seen to this day. This ford was the principal crossing place for the settlers on both sides of the river for several miles, and was used for more than fifty years after the first settlements were made in this vicinity.

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<sup>1</sup> *State Papers*, Vol. 12, p. 230.

The next crossing place was at a ford near the Heath burying-ground. Still farther up the river another crossing place was at the point where the Pemigewasset bridge now stands, and where in the early days of the town the only means of crossing was by boats, horses being made to swim across. In 1795, a charter was given to "William Harper, Daniel McCrillis, Josiah Brown, George C. Ward, Benjamin Calley, Wm. D. Kelley, and others," to construct a bridge to be known as the "Bridgewater and New Hampton bridge, within one mile of Pine hill in Bridgewater." The charter was to become null and void if the bridge was not constructed within four years.

In 1799, Daniel Burley sent the following petition to the legislature, asking for the privilege of maintaining a ferry at this point :

To the Hon'ble the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court Convened June 5th 1779

*Humbly Shews* Daniel Burley of Bridgewater in the County of Grafton that he and the publick labor under Great Inconveniences by Reason of not having any Bridge or Ferry over Pemagawassett River between the Towns of Bridgewater and New Hampton and the local situation of said Towns render it almost impossible to Cross said River with horses unles they are Swimed by side of Conoes,—

Therefore your petitioner humbly prays your Honrs to grant him the privilege of keeping a Ferry a Cross said River near pine hill in Bridgewater. This place in sd River being within a Grant of a Bridge Called Bridgewater and New Hampton Bridge your Petitioner further prays that he may have the grant of a Ferry only till such time as said Bridge is built and in no way to Infringe the Grant of said Bridge for which Favor Granted as in duty Bound shall ever pray

Daniel Burley.

The following statement accompanied the petition :

This certifies that we the subscribers are proprietors of a Grant of a Bridge Calld Bridgewater and New Hampton Bridge, and that we are Intirely willing that Daniel Burley of Bridgewater should have a grant of a ferry within the Grant of the Bridge till there is a Bridge Built so as not to infringe the Grant of the Bridge.

all concerned

Daniel Kelley  
Benja Colby

The petition was granted December 11, 1799, and the ferry established.

The rate of toll which Daniel Burley was authorized to charge was as follows : "Foot passenger, one cent; horse and cart, six cents; cart with more than one horse, ten cents; cart and pair of oxen, eight cents; by more than one pair, twelve cents; every horse not rode, or neat creature, one cent; sheep and swine, each, one-half cent."



The erection of the bridge was delayed because of the inability of the incorporators to dispose of a sufficient amount of stock, and the charter lapsed. Thus matters rested until 1806, when Robert Moore, Daniel Smith, and James Robertson sent a petition to the General Court for a charter to construct a bridge at this point. The charter was granted, the bridge to be known as the Pemigewasset bridge and to be constructed within three years from the approval of the act, June 18, 1806. The bridge was completed within the specified time and opened for travel. It was located just above the site of the present bridge. It was a cheap, open structure in two sections, the first extending from the western bank to the island and the other from the island to the eastern bank. The island then consisted of two acres of land and contained a good maple orchard. The freshet of 1824 carried the bridge down stream, and one or two of its successors were similarly destroyed. The present bridge was erected about 1834. At first it spanned the river from shore to shore without a pier, but it soon commenced to sag, and a pier was placed in the middle of the stream to support it. The pier was a huge crib, built of logs on the ice and sunk in its place and filled with stones. The present stone pier was built about 1864. The story is told that at the building of the abutments it was necessary for work to be done under water, and Dr. Enos Brown was equal to the occasion. Swinging a chain over his shoulder, he would dive to the bottom of the stream, fasten the chain about a rock, and return to the surface. This bridge was also known as the Smith bridge, because Daniel Smith, of New Hampton, was a large owner of the stock. It is said that on one occasion as he stood on the bank of the stream and saw the bridge carried away, he exclaimed: "There goes more of my property to h——," when a bystander sought to comfort him with the remark, "Well, you will recover it all when you get there, Mr. Smith."

The rates of toll over this bridge and over Union bridge in Hill were practically the same as those over Central bridge, given on page 111.

Pemigewasset bridge was laid out as a public highway, March 12, 1866, the corporation being awarded damages to the amount of \$1,000. Of this amount Bristol paid one-half, the center of the bridge being the dividing line between the two towns.

#### CENTRAL BRIDGE

The first charter for the erection of Central bridge at Bristol village was granted by the legislature, Dec. 17, 1812, to Timothy Tilton, Ichabod C. Bartlett, David Smiley, their associates, and successors. The charter gave them the right to erect a

toll-bridge at any point "between the southerly line of the grant for Pemigewasset bridge and the northerly line of the grant for New Chester Union bridge." One condition of the grant was that the town of New Hampton should not be put to expense in building a road to the eastern end of the bridge for the accommodation of the public. The stock of the company was to be divided into one hundred shares and the proprietors were authorized to hold real estate not to exceed five acres. The charter further provided that, if the bridge should not be constructed within five years of the date of the passage of the act, it would become null and void. The five years passed; no bridge was built, and the charter lapsed.

June 22, 1820, the act granting the charter was reenacted, with Ichabod C. Bartlett, Onesiphorus Page, John Ayer, and David Smiley as incorporators. Even then no enthusiasm was manifested over the proposed bridge, and more than a year and a half passed before the new incorporators effected an organization. Then others joined the movement, and at a meeting held at the inn of Isaac Dodge, April 29, 1822, the incorporators organized with the election of Joseph Flanders, moderator; Onesiphorus Page, clerk; I. C. Bartlett, treasurer. John Ayer, Dudley Kelley, and N. S. Berry were elected directors; and Moses H. Bradley, Onesiphorus Page, and Dudley Kelley were chosen a committee to draft by-laws. Levi Carter, Richard H. Sawyer, and Aaron Favor were made a committee to procure subscriptions to the stock of the company, which was fixed at \$1,500, divided into one hundred shares of \$15 each. Amasa Cowles, Dudley Kelley, and Peter Sleeper were made a committee to draft a plan of the bridge.

Occasional meetings of the incorporators were held during the following year. At a meeting held June 14, 1823, the directors presented a full report of all that had been done towards the erection of the bridge. The report stated that they had made contracts covering the entire cost; that Moses Bennett was to furnish the bridge timber for \$275; Moses W. Sleeper and Robert Smith were to build the eastern pier for \$350; Onesiphorus Page, the western pier for \$300, and the western abutment for \$120; John Ayer, the eastern abutment for \$170; John Pattee was to furnish four thousand five hundred feet of three-inch plank, sixteen feet long, for \$54; and John Ayer was to do the timber work for \$235, making a total of \$1,504. This report also stated that subscriptions for stock at that date amounted to \$1,055, and that the following donations had been pledged:

I. C. Bartlett	\$60	Wm. Simonds	\$15
Moses Favor	50	James Minot	50
Webster & Cavis	30	Daniel Cheney	15

Ezra Parker	\$15	Charles Emerson	\$15
Joseph Brown	15	Isaiah Emerson	15
John Willoughby	15	Lewis Davis	15
Onesiphorus Page	15	Peter Hazelton	30

The stock sold and donations amounted to \$1,410, thus leaving only \$94 to be provided for. The report further stated that John Ayer, Nathaniel S. Berry, and John McClary were the principal undertakers in building the bridge and stood ready to execute their contracts.

All the stock was finally disposed of, and was issued to the following named persons, the figures at the right indicating the number of shares taken by each :

Theophilus Sanborn	1	Ezekiel S. Worthen	1
Daniel Sanborn	1	Isaac Ladd, Jr.	1
Berry & McClary	5	Levi Carter	2
Richard H. Sawyer	3	Obediah C. Smith	3
Isaac Dodge	1	William Wallace	1
John Ayer	8	Erskine Quimby	1
Timothy Eastman	4	Erastus Cowles	1
Amasa Cowles	2	John Tolford, Jr.	2
David Sanborn	3	O. C. Smith	3
Ichabod C. Bartlett	6	Ebenezer Kendall	1
Jonathan Powers	2	Jesse Sanborn	1
Moses Worthen	5	Daniel Cheney	1
John Pattee	1	James Chase	1
Dudley Kelley	2	Caleb Sawyer	1
Josiah Robinson	2	N. G. Upham	3
Joseph Flanders	1	John Greely	1
William McClary	1	Moses Favor	3
John Kelley	1	Abbott Lovejoy	2
James Hight	1	Philip Webster	1
John L. Gordon	1	Solomon Cavis	1
Aaron Favor	4	Joseph Brown	1
John S. Ayer	3	M. H. Bradley	2
William Crawford	1	Lewis Davis	1
Samuel Smith	2	Peter Hazelton	3
James Minot	1		

The bridge was constructed in the summer and fall of 1823. It was an open structure, with two piers, and stood nearer the water by several feet than the present covered bridge. At a meeting of the incorporators October 11, 1823, it was voted that the bridge be free until the annual meeting of the company in June, 1824.

One-half of the bridge was first taxed in Bristol in April,

1827, at a valuation of \$50, and the money tax was 55 cents. In 1840, the assessed valuation was \$500.

In the summer of 1824, the toll-gate house, which still stands near the bridge, on the southern side of the highway, was erected. Obadiah C. Smith dug the cellar and laid the walls and foundation for the chimney for \$25.50; James Chase was given \$10 in money and a share of bridge stock for erecting the frame; while the other parts of the building were built by Moses W. Sleeper for \$150. The next summer Amasa Cowles built the barn for "two notes signed by William Keezer and David Sleeper, for \$15 each, the saddle which the corporation received from Joseph Fowler, and \$20 in money."

In front of the house there was a gate—a long pole which swung across the road when no one was passing—and on one side of the road was erected a large, square sign, on which were painted the following rates for crossing the bridge:

Each foot passenger	1 cent
Each horse and rider	6 cents
Each additional rider	1 cent
Each chaise, chair, sulky, or other pleasure carriage on wheels, drawn by one horse	12 1-2 cents
Each riding sleigh, drawn by one horse	6 cents
Each riding sleigh for passengers, drawn by two horses	10 cents
Each additional horse	2 cents
Each coach, chariot, phaeton, or other four-wheeled carriage for passengers, drawn by two horses	25 cents
Each additional horse	5 cents
Each curricula	15 cents
Each cart, wagon, sleigh, sled, or other carriage of burden, drawn by two beasts	10 cents
Each additional beast	2 cents
Each sleigh, or sled, or other carriage of burden, drawn by one horse	6 1-4 cents
Each sheep or swine	1-4 cent
Each horse or neat creature, exclusive of those rode on or in carriages	1 1-2 cents

Special monthly and yearly rates were given for all purposes except the passing of wood and lumber. Elijah Buttrick was the first toll-gatherer, and he was succeeded, in 1833, by Kinsley Mason; Leander Badger was toll-gatherer for many years, until the bridge was made free.

The bridge did not prove a paying investment, and during the first ten years the dividends amounted to only \$1.35 per



share. It had been standing less than thirteen years when it was considered unsafe, and the company voted, June 30, 1836, to rebuild. Work was commenced in the fall of that year, and the present covered structure was completed during the following winter. The two piers were discarded, and the present stone pier was built near the middle of the stream. To cover the expense of this new bridge, three assessments of five dollars each per share were made.

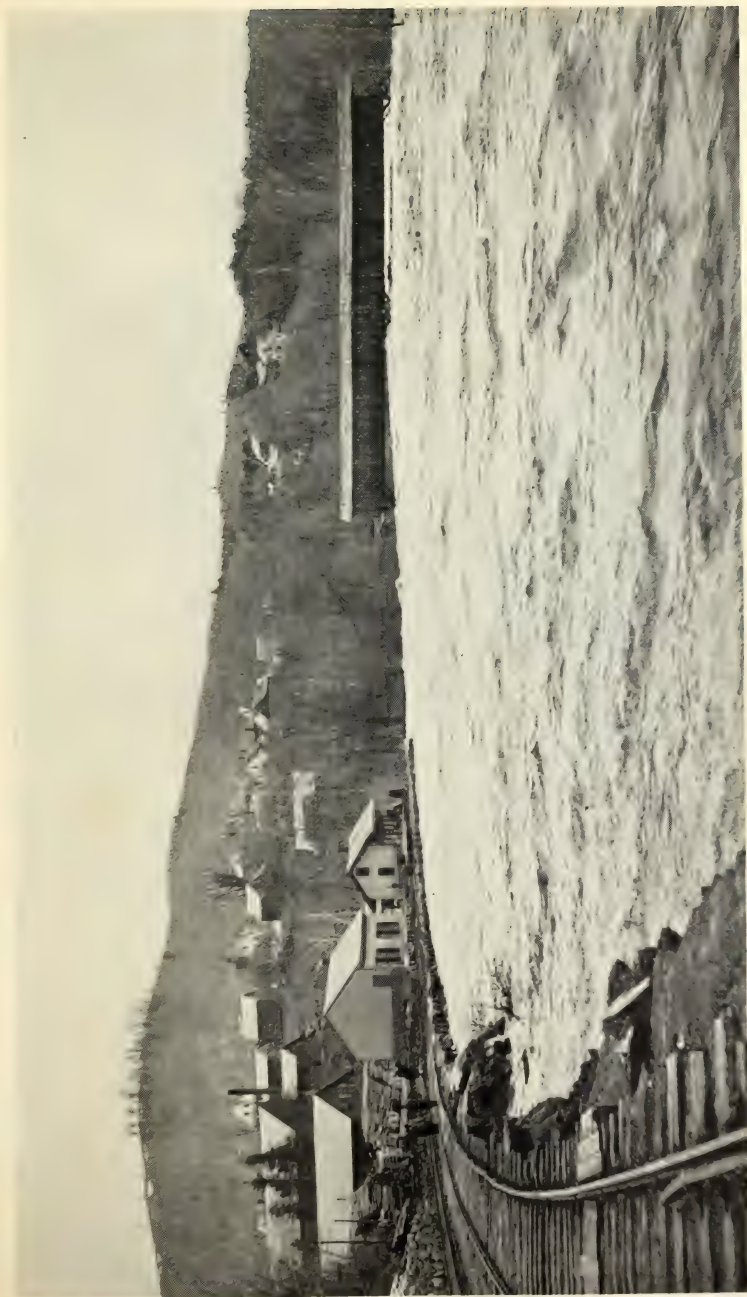
The new bridge did a larger business than the first, and dividends from one dollar to one dollar and fifty cents per share were now paid each year.

In 1854, an assessment of three dollars on each share was voted to pay debts that had accumulated. The shares at this time were considered of so little value that the assessment was paid on only five shares. All the rest, ninety-five in all, were sold at auction for non-payment of the assessment. These were purchased by Levi Bartlett, Gustavus Bartlett, Solomon S. Sleeper, David Tilton, and Abbott Lovejoy at an average price of \$3.08—just enough to pay the assessments and costs.

No meetings of the incorporators were held after the annual meeting of May 14, 1856, and the directors elected at this time, David Tilton, Gustavus Bartlett, and William C. Lovejoy, were the last chosen. Levi Bartlett, as clerk and treasurer, transacted most of the business from this time till the bridge became the property of Bristol and New Hampton.

The following not before mentioned served at various times on the board of directors: Aaron Favor, Timothy Eastman, Nathaniel G. Upham, Obadiah C. Smith, Levi Carter, John Little, Solomon Cavis, Moses Worthen, Bracket L. Greenough, Levi Bartlett, Abbott Lovejoy, John Kelley, Wm. L. Chase, David Sanborn, Leander Badger, Francis H. Kidder, and John Ayer.

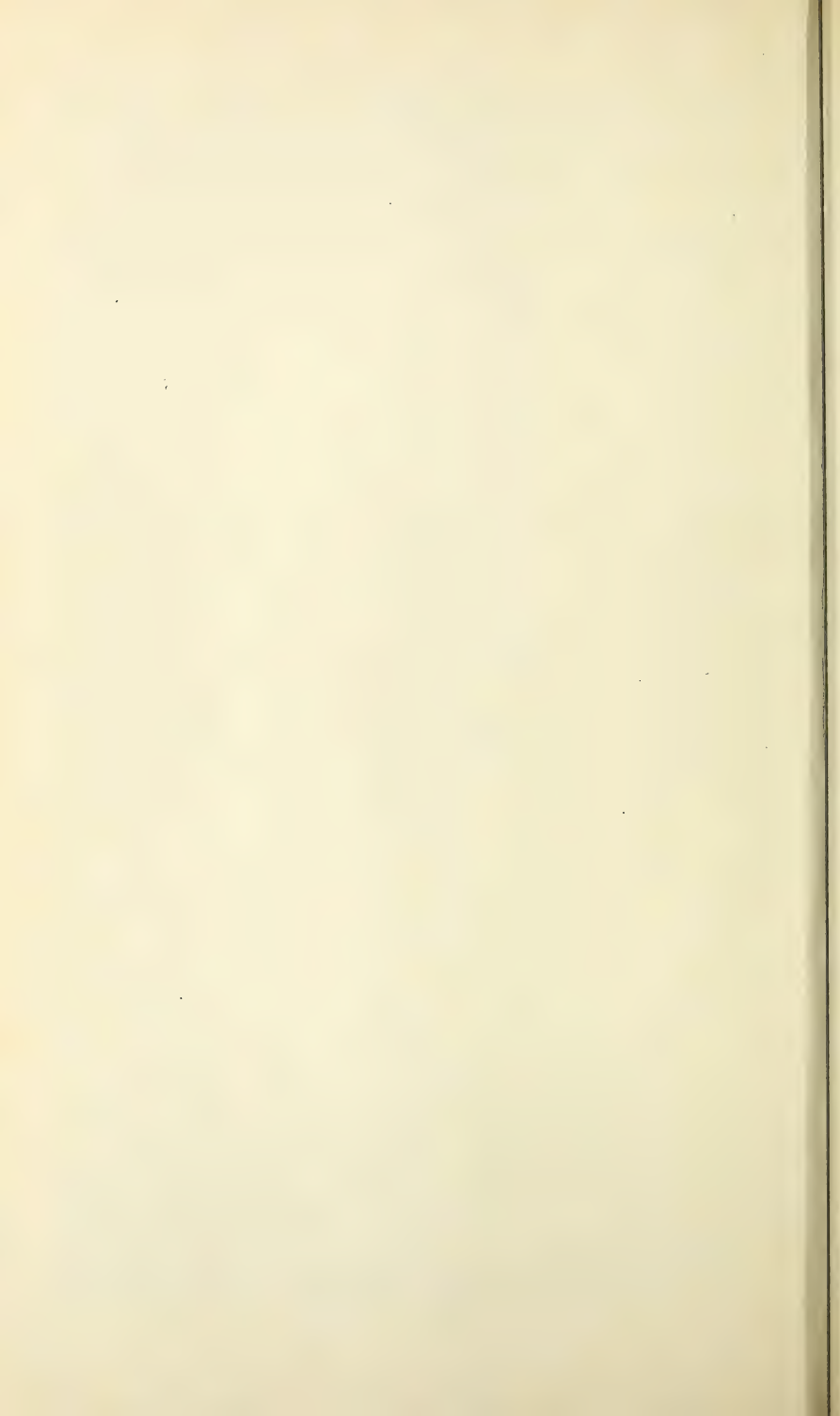
The subject of freeing the bridge began to be agitated previous to 1860, and as the towns of Bristol and New Hampton showed much reluctance in laying out a road over a bridge that would cost a large sum to keep in repair, John B. Gordon and others petitioned the court to lay out the road. The question came up for the action of the town of Bristol at a meeting held April 17, 1860, when a motion to leave the matter to the selectmen was lost; and the town voted to dismiss the article without action. No better result was reached at a meeting held in the following November; but at the annual meeting in March, 1861, a vote was passed instructing the selectmen to lay out a road over Central bridge. The voters evidently saw the hand-writing on the wall. But the action of the town was too late; for July 11, 1861, the commissioners of Grafton and Belknap counties laid out a road from the dwelling-house of Parker Perry in New Hampton to the toll-gate house in Bristol, and awarded the Cen-



RAILROAD STATION

PEMIGEWASSET RIVER; FRESHET OF APR., 1895

CENTRAL BRIDGE



tral bridge corporation, as damages, \$300. Thus one-half of the bridge became the property of the town of Bristol.

The bridge has been an expensive one to maintain, and large sums have been expended on it from time to time. About 1854, the eastern abutment was swept away by a flood of water, turned in that direction by a log-jam at the pier; while the bridge, itself, has several times narrowly escaped destruction by freshets. In 1870, Bristol rebuilt the western abutment and raised the western end of the bridge a few feet, at a cost of \$1,355.

At the session of the legislature in 1870, a charter was granted Nathaniel F. Keyes, David M. Webster, Stephen C. Baker, Joseph P. Ladd, John A. Dana, John Brown, Nathaniel Batchelder, their associates, and successors as the Pemigewasset Bridge Co., to build and maintain a toll-bridge over the Pemigewasset river between New Hampton and Bridgewater, at or near Squam Falls. The bridge was constructed soon after and was known as the Ashland bridge. It was a great convenience to Bridgewater in lessening the distance to the Ashland markets. It was not, however, a paying investment, and James A. West purchased most of the stock at low figures. In October, 1883, a petition was circulated through this section by Mr. West, D. M. Webster, and others, praying that the courts of Grafton and Belknap counties lay out a highway over this bridge. This petition received over three hundred signatures. A large array of legal talent was engaged for the petitioners and the case came to a hearing by the commissioners, Oct. 13, 1884. Many of the petitioners withdrew their names before the hearing commenced, and the leaders withdrew the case soon after. But a day of reckoning came and the petitioners paid the costs. The bridge was swept down stream in the great freshet of 1896, and has not been rebuilt.



## CHAPTER XI

### HIGHWAYS

Roll back the years a century  
And ride with me the Mayhew pike.  
For far and near no road it's like;  
Through pathless woods for miles and miles,  
Through tangled swamps and deep defiles  
It ran, a pulsing artery  
Between the forest and the sea.

—*Pattee.*

The action of the proprietors of New Chester in opening a road through the "home lots," as an encouragement for the settlement of the town, has been narrated in the chapter entitled "The Proprietary History." The amount of money thus expended was not sufficient to make a good road through the primeval forests for nineteen miles, from the Franklin to the Plymouth line, and construct suitable bridges, but it was sufficient to make such a road as would allow the passing of men and women on horseback, or even the slow passage of an ox team.

The road opened by these workmen commenced at the Franklin line, and followed up the Pemigewasset valley very nearly as the road now runs till it reached a point just south of Smith's river, where is now the Peaslee burying-ground. Here it made a sharp turn to the west, and followed the south bank of Smith's river till it reached the head of the falls, at which point it crossed the river, and from there ascended the steep, south side of New Chester mountain to the height of the land between the two summits; thence passed the present residence of Mrs. J. W. Sanborn, down the north side of the mountain to the bridge at Central square. From this village it continued toward New Hampton very much as it does now, till Danforth's brook was passed, when it commenced to bear to the north and passed just above the present residence of Solon Dolloff; thence it continued east, crossing the present road near where a schoolhouse now stands, and continued down the hill to the meadow near the bank of the river; thence it made its way up a ravine to the log cabin of Abner Fellows, where Horace N. Emmons now resides, and then continued on the present route till it reached the point where Benjamin Emmons settled, now known as the John M. R. Emmons farm. From this point it continued very nearly due east till the river bank was again reached, nearly opposite the Heath burying-ground, from which

point it bore to the north and continued in nearly a straight course over Ten-Mile brook and over the base of Pine hill till it again reached the bank of the river at the mouth of the brook a short distance north of Pemigewasset bridge on the Sylvanus W. Sweat farm. This piece of road, where it passed the site of the Pemigewasset bridge, was nearly a half mile west of it, the river making a bend to the east. From this brook it followed the river bank to Moore's mills, and continued as now to the Andrew J. West place; thence across the intervale, nearer the river than now, and so continued till it passed the Simeon Cross farm, the buildings of which were destroyed by fire a few years ago while occupied by James Aiken; thence it again followed its present course till it passed the Charles H. Woodman farm and reached a point a little south of the present brick schoolhouse. Here it again left the low land and proceeded along the hillside, leaving the site of the coal kilns and the present road nearly a half mile to the east, and again reaching the present road just south of the Webster farmhouses. From this point it bore away to the northwest to the settlement of Col. Thomas Crawford, now the farm of Sherman S. Fletcher. It then made a turn to the east, or northeast, and continued along the present road till it crossed the Clay brook at the extreme northeastern part of the town not far from the Plymouth line, where John Mitchell settled.

This was substantially the road as opened by the workmen sent here by the proprietors of New Chester, and was called the Concord and Plymouth road. It was not, however, formally laid out by the selectmen of New Chester till June 11, 1785. Important changes have been made from time to time at various points. The great freshet of October, 1785, caused the abandonment of the road on the intervale in Bridgewater, on the Cross farm, and the construction of a road on higher ground. This second road was later abandoned, and the present road, between the first two, was constructed at this point.

As early as 1776, an unsuccessful effort was made to improve the approach of the road to the bridge at the head of the falls at Smith's river. Dec. 2, 1785, however, a road was laid out which left the Concord and Plymouth road a few rods north of the present farmhouse of William C. Kelley, in Hill, crossed the flat west of the highway and ascended the foothills of Periwig mountain, then turned north and proceeded till it reached the old road south of the bridge. This road was still further improved in November, 1797, by leaving the Concord and Plymouth road just south of William C. Kelley's, thus making the ascent of the foothills of Periwig still more gradual. The first two roads at this point were discontinued in March, 1798, and the latter in March, 1809, after the construction of the turnpike.

The bridge over Smith's river at this point was the first, and probably the only, bridge constructed by the New Chester

proprietors previous to the settlement of the town. This particular site was evidently chosen because the banks were high and the channel narrow and the stream could be spanned by logs cut in the woods near-by, and the necessity of a pier obviated.

In 1784, a road was laid out from the south end of the bridge over Smith's river into the Borough as far as William Murray's on the Alexandria line, a distance of five miles, which was known as the Murray road. This road is spoken of in the town records as early as 1776, thus showing that a trail was there as early as that date.

One of the earliest roads opened was from Smith's river bridge to Clark's Corner, in South Alexandria, on the north bank of the river. The continuation of this road was over Plumer hill to Crawford's Corner in Alexandria, and thence to Hebron on the west side of Sugar Loaf mountain. This was the first road to Hebron from the south. The New Chester part of this road was laid out in 1784, "as the road is now trod," thus showing it had been in use before being laid out, as was customary at that time.

A road to connect with this last described road was laid out Aug. 20, 1781, from what is now High street in Bristol village. The eastern part of this road was between Lots 61 and 62, exactly where Prospect street now is, and continued west to near the westerly end of those lots, near where William H. Hannaford now lives, where it turned to the south and thus continued to the Alexandria line.

There is no record showing the laying out of a highway where is now North Main street previous to the construction of the Mayhew turnpike about 1804; but there was a trail from Central square to the log cabin of John Sleeper, where David M. Chase now lives, at the base of Sugar hill, as early as 1780. A little later it was extended to and along Willow street up Alexandria hill and over Hemp hill, past where Charles A. Gale now lives to Jonas Hastings's; thence to near where Silas S. Brown now resides. That part of this trail from Newfound river to Mr. Brown's was laid out as a highway by New Chester, June 21, 1790. In 1831, this road was extended north past the farmhouse of Col. Samuel T. W. Sleeper, later occupied by his son, J. Martin Sleeper, and now by Jacob Ackerman, to the burying-ground on the Sleeper farm, and thence to the farmhouse of Moses Atwood, later occupied for many years by Calvin H. Mudgett and now by William Adams. In 1837, this road was extended still farther north, passing on the west side of the Mudgett farmhouse, and crossing Fowler's river just below the present bridge; thence to David Ladd's farmhouse, later occupied for many years by Ezekiel Follansbee, near the base of Sugar Loaf. That part of the road between Fowler's river and

Col. Sleeper's was discontinued after the construction of the Sugar Loaf road.

In 1837, a short road was laid out from the Moses Atwood residence about northeast at right angles with the above described road to the site of the buildings owned by A. W. Carr, destroyed by fire in 1902. On this road lived at different times Aaron Sleeper, William Mudgett, Walter Haywood, John Ladd, John Simonds, and Gilman Sanborn.

In 1792, the court laid out a road from "the bridge" at the outlet of the lake to "the potash of Sherburn Tilton on the Newfound pond brook," now known as Black brook. This potash was near the head of the brook on land leased by Mr. Tilton of Jonas Hastings in December, 1780, east of Mr. Hastings's house. It was connected on the west with a road from the Hastings house, which stood as now on the road laid out, in 1790, over Hemp hill. A path was also opened from Mr. Hastings's west to connect with the road over Plumer hill, before described, called the Hebron road. This was laid out in 1822 as a highway. The road, therefore, from the bridge past the potash was the first opened from the foot of the lake to Alexandria.

In 1811, a road was laid out from the bridge at the outlet of the lake southeast to the David H. Sleeper farm on the turnpike, as it was then traveled.

July 22, 1812, a road was laid out from this bridge extending one hundred and fifty-three rods northwest along the lake shore to land of Peter Fellows. This was near where Amasa Highlands now lives. At this time or later, there were two farms on this road. Here Benjamin Fellows lived in 1820, when his son Milo, was born; and here lived later Amos Brown and William Pattee. This road was extended later to the mouth of Black brook along the shore of the lake; thence west past the house of John Sleeper to that of Col. Samuel T. W. Sleeper. May 19, 1824, this road was laid out by Bristol as a public highway, at highwater mark, "as now trod," "without expense to the town." The bridge at the outlet of the lake at that time was known as Dimond's bridge, a man by the name of Thomas Dimond living on the west bank of the river at this point. Sept. 8, 1840, this road was extended west from Col. Sleeper's farmhouse to the Alexandria line to connect with the Hebron road, and the road from the Hastings house to the Hebron road, spoken of above, was discontinued in 1842. The road along the shore of the lake was found to be hardly at "high water mark," because for some distance it was under water when the lake was full, and, in 1847, a new piece of road one hundred and forty-three rods long was laid out on higher ground on land of Amos Brown and that part of the old road abandoned at this time was discontinued in 1854.



About 1821, Ebenezer Kendall built a saw-mill at North Bristol, on the west side of Lake street and just above the road running at right angles with Lake street at this point. March 8, 1825, a road was laid out from the "turn of the pond," supposed to mean the outlet of the lake, to near where is now the schoolhouse; thence south on the ridge till opposite North Bristol, where it descended the bank to this mill. Thence it continued a few rods south and there ascended the bank, passed the cemetery to the house of Edmond Brown, later the Samuel H. Rollins house, and from there eight rods to the turnpike. In 1821, the road from the southeastern shore of the lake to the site of the Kendall mill, which was a part of the old road laid out in 1801, described below, was apparently discontinued; but, in 1825, it was reopened, the description being that it extended from "the turnpike past Eben Kendall's mill to the turnpike again." This description would indicate that a part of this road was laid out over a part of the road constructed this same year from "the turn of the pond" to Kendall's mill, and from there to the turnpike, as before described. This overlapping of one road on another was several times done in laying out the roads of Bristol. The roads between this mill and the lake appear to have been discontinued in 1863 and 1864, and were unused for many years previous.

In 1827, the road running west from Kendall's mill to John Allen's house was laid out, constituting what is now the street at North Bristol.

John Kidder settled, in 1772, where Fred Kidder now lives, and a trail was cut at that time from the Concord and Plymouth road to his log cabin. This trail was soon after extended to the Locke neighborhood, and New Chester expended money on it in 1783; but it was not laid out as a highway till 1789. The custom was for men to locate where fancy led them, sometimes miles from other settlements. Their first communication with the world was by the blazed path, or trail, then the rude road, and finally the laid-out highway. As a rule, no road was laid out till it had been used and its necessity proved.

As early as 1785 a trail extended from the Locke neighborhood west, passed Bristol Peak, and crossed Basford's brook, now known as Hemlock brook, in the deep ravine at the base of the mountain, to what was later the town farm and still later the Homans farm; thence it extended down the west slope of the hill to the lake, and thence on the east shore to Hebron. The first settlers east of the lake traveled over this circuitous trail in going from their homes to what is now Bristol village. From the point on Basford's brook, named above, a trail extended past the Homans farmhouse on the height of the land about three miles north, to where J. E. S. Fifield recently lived,

near the summit of Bridgewater hill; thence down the east slope of the hill past the Bridgewater meeting-house, to the log cabin of Col. Thomas Crawford, where it united with the Concord and Plymouth road previously described. This trail was made a highway July 25, 1788, and was the first road laid out by Bridgewater after its incorporation that year. In 1796, this road was extended south from Basford's brook down the side of Bristol Peak, through the Nelson or Hall neighborhood, "as now cut and trodden," uniting with the Concord and Plymouth road as now, near Danforth's brook. This extension greatly lessened the distance between the east side of the lake and Bristol village.

When the road on the southern slope of Bristol Peak was first constructed, it made a long detour to the west from where the Nelson house now stands, and then again swung to the east, reaching the location of the present road near the site of the farmhouse of Reuben Kidder, near the highest point of the road. On this curve was the first house of Levi Nelson, in the orchard west of the present house; above him lived Josiah Fuller, and near his home was the schoolhouse of that district, destroyed by fire in 1816. Mr. Fuller removed to the shore of the lake, and Nelson deserted his home for a new one farther east but just above the present house. The road was straightened, as it now is, in September, 1821, at which time it was described as "striking the old road four rods north of where the old schoolhouse was."

Apr. 19, 1814, a road was laid out from the corner of John Clough's barn, one hundred and twenty rods northeast to Mr. Clough's woods. Mr. Clough lived at this time on the Homans place.

September 22, 1796, the trail from Hebron was laid out as a highway. This trail is spoken of as passing the farmhouse of Peter Sanborn, who lived on the Caleb Whittemore farm on the "Point"; thence past the home of Abram Hook, now the Gilbert B. Dolloff farm, and from there to Basford's cove, near where Edwin T. Pike now resides. This was what is now the Point road. July 1, 1799, the trail from Basford's cove to the road that crossed Basford's brook on the hill was laid out, thus making a continuous highway from the Hebron line to Bristol village past the base of Bristol Peak through the Hall neighborhood.

Returning to the Locke neighborhood we find, in 1789, another trail leading due north, through what is now the Smith pasture to the Bridgewater meeting-house. This was laid out Oct. 5, 1799. It was over this road that the post-riders traveled for many years in carrying the mail between Bristol village and Plymouth. Still another trail from this point led northeast past the William H. Abel farmhouse to the river road, now so-called.

This road was laid out in 1791. Another that united with the river road a short distance north of the Pemigewasset bridge, was laid out Sept. 18, 1795.

The road over New Chester mountain was the most difficult between Concord and Plymouth, and naturally gave rise to much complaint by those traveling over it. In the spring of 1797, a petition was addressed to the court praying that a highway be laid out on the east side of the mountain. The court sent a committee to view the route with authority to lay out the road if thought necessary. This committee laid out a road, in September of that year, practically over the same route as that afterwards taken by the Mayhew turnpike corporation between Newfound and Smith's rivers. There was an evident determination on the part of New Chester to avoid, if possible, the construction of this road, on account of the great expense. Feb. 23, 1798, a town meeting was held, when the subject of the construction of the road was considered, and Maj. Theophilus Sanborn was made a committee to go to Haverhill in March to lay before the court the grievance of the town, and see if the court would accept a road on the west side of the mountain in place of that laid out by the committee. The efforts of Maj. Sanborn were of no avail, and another town meeting was held May 1, of that year, when it was voted to appeal to the legislature at the session to be held that month in Hopkinton. This vote was finally reconsidered, and it was decided to send a petition to the court at its next session to see if it would postpone the execution of its order for the construction of the road. This effort was also a failure; and another town meeting was held Aug. 27, when a petition was addressed to the court to see if it would give the town any relief by allowing the road to be carried west from the top of Merrill hill till it should unite with the old road over the mountain, and thus avoid the expense of building between the top of the hill and Smith's river; or afford relief in any other way. The court was inexorable, and this effort, like the other, appears to have had no effect. At the annual meeting, Mar. 18, 1799, the town voted to raise \$100 to construct the road. This sum was entirely inadequate for the work, and apparently no work was done. The subject again came up at the annual meeting in March, 1800, when the town voted not to raise any money for the building of this road.

Thus matters drifted till Oct. 27, following, when the town chose Col. Peter Sleeper an agent to appear at the superior court of judicature in November to ask the court to stay a bill against the town for neglecting to construct the road as ordered by the court of common pleas. Hope was entertained that the court might be induced to do this because of the proposed construction of the Mayhew turnpike over the route laid out by order of the court. A meeting was held Nov.

10, when the town promptly voted to grant the petition of Thomas W. Thompson and others for permission to build a turnpike; but this did not end the difficulty as hoped. The superior court did not interfere, and the lower court did not withdraw its mandate for the construction of the road; but an indictment was issued against the town for neglecting to comply with the order of the court. In the warrant for the annual town meeting in March, 1801, there was inserted, therefore, the following article:

To See how much money the Town will Vote to Raise to Build and Repair the Road on the East Side of New Chester Mountain or what the Town will do with Respect to being Sued for not Doing Sd Road.

Under this article no money was raised; but Maj. Theophilus Sanborn and Ebenezer Kimball were elected a committee to appear at the next June term of the superior court of judicature in behalf of the town. The efforts of this committee appear to have been as unavailing as former efforts, for immediately after their return a special town meeting was called, at which the town voted to raise \$200 for building the road, and the selectmen were made a committee to superintend its construction. It may be regarded as significant, however, that at the same special meeting the selectmen were instructed to build a road on the west side of the mountain as petitioned for, and this road was constructed, while there is no evidence to show that a dollar was ever expended for the road on the east side. It seems that the matter drifted till the Mayhew Turnpike corporation was granted a charter in 1803, and no further action was taken by either party.

The petition referred to above was dated May 1, 1801, and read as follows:

State of New Hampshire, Grafton, ss.

To the Gentlemen, Selectmen of New Chester in County and State.

Whereas a Public Highway has been Laid out and made passable from Rumney through the westerly part of Plymouth and through a part of Hebron by the Easterly part of Newfound Pond so called through Bridgewater which appears to be of public Utility and will be a much shorter way from Rumney to Concord by Several miles therefore wee pray that your Honors will lay out a Road from Newfound River So Called to the Westerly side of New Chester mountain and to strike the Main or River road about Sixty rods below Smith's mills in New Chester and wee your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray. Orford, May 1, 1801.

Isaac Barnard  
Theophilus Tilton  
Peter Mayhew  
Jonathan Tilton  
John Brown

Joshua Tolford  
John Adams  
Abel Chamberlain  
Benjamin Norris  
Samuel Hazeltine, Jr.



Dean Rogers  
Benjamin Norris  
John Bartlett  
William Heslern  
Benjamin Cotton  
Jabez B. Barney  
Barrit Blaisdell  
Daniel Page  
Aaron Barry  
Rui Mason  
Israel Hoyt

William Achin  
Samuel Davis 3d  
Moses Hoyt  
Nathan Davis  
Thomas Weare  
Samuel Davis  
Isaac Day  
Aaron Jewitt  
Nathan Davis Jr.  
Isaac Dean  
John Johnson

A portion of the road described in the above petition was the same as that laid out by Bridgewater, in 1796, from the Hebron line to where Edwin T. Pike now lives. Bridgewater now extended this road to Newfound river at Willow street. The route was from Mr. Pike's to the foot of the lake on the east shore; thence southwest to near where the schoolhouse now stands, a few rods south of the outlet of the lake; thence south, keeping on the high land east of the river to the junction of Willow and Lake streets; thence along Willow street to the east bank of the river, which was the dividing line between Bridgewater and New Chester.

New Chester continued this road from this point to the present residence of Zerah E. Tilton; thence in nearly a straight line across the fair ground and Bartlett's plain, past the present farmhouses of William H. Hannaford and Favor Locke, uniting with the road on the north bank of Smith's river twenty-two rods west of the present high bridge. It crossed Smith's river on this bridge, and then proceeded east on the south bank of the stream fourteen rods; thence one hundred and twelve rods southeast, where it united at the foot of "Goulding hill" with the old road from the first bridge over Smith's river. This road can be readily traced from the lake to its terminus by the aid of the accompanying sketch.

In 1801, trouble arose between the court of common pleas and the town of Bridgewater over the river road, so-called. The road between Danforth's brook and Moore's mills as originally constructed, has been described, running from just beyond Solon Dolloff's to the river bank, then up the bluff to Horace N. Emmons's, and again to the bank of the river opposite the Heath burying-ground, then over Pine hill to the brook north of Pemigewasset bridge. This year the court sent a committee which relaid the road as it now is between Danforth's brook and the brook north of Pemigewasset bridge; and the court issued an order that the new road must be made passable for teams by the tenth of November of that year. A town meeting was held at Lieut. Samuel Worthen's, Oct. 22, and Moses Lewis was awarded the contract to do the work for \$500. Another meeting was held Nov. 13, when this vote was recon-

**POND**  
 N. 60 E. 66  
 To Turnpike  
 N 45 E. 64  
 N 28 E. 40  
 N 24. Steep hill  
 N 33 E. 20 Mill  
 N 61 E. 22  
 N 30 E. 20

From the pond  
 214 Rods to mile stone

1707  
 1614  
 New Road 93 Further than  
 the Turnpike

New Road  
 66  
 62  
 60  
 64  
 24  
 28  
 8  
 12  
 25  
 22  
 22  
 22  
 14  
 15  
 15  
 12  
 25  
 94  
 194  
 54  
 86  
 24  
 16  
 20  
 10  
 60  
 22  
 60  
 40  
 20  
 20  
 100  
 20  
 22  
 20  
 24  
 40  
 64  
 66

Turnpike  
 214 Rods  
 17  
 130  
 21  
 36  
 21  
 14  
 30  
 30  
 30  
 11  
 18  
 13  
 39  
 17  
 54  
 22  
 40  
 4  
 23  
 19  
 53  
 9  
 30  
 10  
 48  
 21  
 34  
 17  
 29  
 20  
 20  
 10  
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 22  
 19  
 19  
 15  
 19  
 30  
 13  
 12  
 19  
 60  
 27  
 13  
 48  
 36  
 38  
 26

Through Brown's clearing  
 N 5 W. 106  
 N 1 E. 20  
 N 21 E. 20  
 N 24 E. 40

By the town pike  
 N 40 E. 60  
 N 45 E. 60  
 N 35 E. 22

S 14 W. 130  
 S 22 1/2 W. 21  
 S 37 W. 56  
 S 30 1/2 W. 21  
 S 25 W. 14  
 S 20 W. 12  
 S 11 W. 30  
 S 2 E. 32

E 10 Rods across the bridge  
 N 11 E. 20  
 N 28 E. 16  
 N 79 E. 24  
 Very Bad Hill

S 10 E. 30-16  
 S 16 E. 11-15  
 S 27 E. 7-13  
 S 43 E. 39-17  
 S 39 E. 54-22  
 S 42 E. 40-4  
 Eastman's Shop  
 S 20 E. 23-1

Steep Bank  
 Low Swamp  
 N 10 E. 140

Newfound R.

S 22 E. 114-19 1707

N 11 W. 194

N 9 W. 94

N 24 E. 28

N 11 W. 12  
 N 7 W. 15  
 N 35 W. 14  
 N 25

N 7 W. 10 Steep Ledge

West Mt.

N 15 W. 20  
 N 11 W. 20  
 N 61 W. 12  
 N 28 W. 20  
 N 27 W. 29

N 46 E. across the bridge  
 N 70 W. 20  
 N 50 W. 72

N 37 W. 24 Down very steep hill  
 N 11 E. 64 Up a long hill

Smith's R.

N 7 E. 20

N 7 E. 20  
 S 6 E. 48  
 S 15 W. 36  
 S 35

Great Banks  
 N 35 W. 66  
 Bad Sandy Hill-very Steep

East Mt.

S 49 W. 84-9

S 52 W. 24-15

S 49 W. 17-13

S 53 W. 26-20

S 37 W. 15-21

S 19 W. 15-16

S 33 W. 15-19

S 35 W. 30-13

S 49 W. 12-19

S 11 W. 60

S 16 E. 26

# ROAD MAP

SHOWING ROAD PETITIONED  
 FOR IN MAY, 1801, AND SUR-  
 VEY FORTURNPIKE IN 1804.

FROM THE ORIGINAL  
 E. R. Musgrove



# HONG KONG

THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT  
HAS THE HONOUR TO ANNOUNCE  
THAT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT  
HAS THE HONOUR TO ANNOUNCE  
THAT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT  
HAS THE HONOUR TO ANNOUNCE

sidered, and the town voted to raise \$200 in labor or money for this road, the work to be done by June 30, 1802. The work, however, was not completed at the date specified, and another meeting was held Aug. 30. One article in the warrant for this meeting was "to see what further measures the town will take for completing the river road as laid out by the court's committee." This meeting was called at John Mitchell's, but adjourned to meet at the house of Robert Burley, near that part of the road to be rebuilt, Sept. 27, when it was voted that the work should be completed by the first of the following December, and to let the work, in three sections, by vendue. The eastern part of the work was let to Robert Craige for \$95; from the John M. R. Emmons farm to the Heath burying-ground, was let to Robert Craige for \$29; from the burying-ground to the brook north of Pemigewasset bridge, to Simon Harris, for \$156. The exact date of the completion of the road is not known; but as no further action was taken in town meeting in regard to it, it was probably completed by the contractors in the time specified. The old road over Pine hill was discontinued in March, 1809.

The town had but a little while to rest without further trouble with this same road, though we are not told its exact location. On the 26th of May, 1809, Bridgewater held a special town meeting at the schoolhouse in what is now Bristol village "to see what sum of money the town will raise to work out on the river road this summer in consequence of the town being indicted and unless more work is done than what is assest an execution will issue against said town." At this meeting a committee, consisting of Daniel Morse, Robert Craige, and Daniel Brown, was elected to examine the road and estimate how much money would be required to repair the road, and report at the next meeting. The next meeting was held July 12, following, and it was then voted to raise \$150 to work out on the river road that summer. It this case the town of Bridgewater appears to have made an honest effort to comply with the order of the court; but the court was not satisfied and imposed a fine of \$215 on the town. At a special meeting called for the purpose it was "voted to raise \$215 to satisfy the execution which the superior court has laid on the town as a fine to repair the river road." This amount was assessed as a special tax July 2, 1810.

It was no uncommon thing for a town to be indicted in those days. In 1818, New Chester had three indictments against it, and thought the indictments so unjust that it voted to stand trial on all. William W. Sargent was chosen the agent of the town and Mr. Fletcher of Salisbury was selected as counsel. The court was seemingly very free to grant an indictment; and one year there was an article in the warrant for a town meeting in New Chester to see what method the town could take to rid itself of complaints to the grand jury.



In scanning the action of New Chester and Bridgewater in those years in supporting their highways, one is impressed with the fact that the roads were a great burden to the people that was borne generously according to the means of the people. In 1793, when Bridgewater paid its three selectmen a combined compensation of less than two pounds, it raised sixty pounds for its highways; in 1796, when twenty pounds were sufficient to pay town charges, it raised \$300 for its roads, and in 1800 it raised \$500. The amount of work that this money would secure may be judged from the fact that fifty cents per day was the common price for labor. In 1803, a day's labor brought eighty-three cents on the highway in the summer months, and only forty-two cents later. In 1806, \$700 was raised; in 1808, \$600; and in 1810, \$1,200; thus showing that the people increased the appropriation for roads as fast as the wealth of the town permitted.

In 1805, New Chester voted not to allow a turnpike to be constructed from the lower end of Mayhew pike through the town to Boscawen; but three years later a charter was granted to Whittier Sargent, Onesiphorus Page, Jacob Favor, Isaac Favor, Anthony Taylor, Thomas Favor, John Tolford, Jr., and their associates for the New Chester and Danbury Turnpike corporation, with authority to build a turnpike from Union bridge in New Chester to the Grafton pike at or near George's mills in Danbury; and this pike was built soon after.

#### THE MAYHEW TURNPIKE

The charter for the Mayhew turnpike was granted Dec. 22, 1803, to Moses Lewis, Thomas W. Thompson, Peter Mayhew, William Tarlton, Peter Sleeper, Ebenezer Kelley, and Moses Kelley. They were authorized to build a "turnpike four rods wide from or near Peter Peaslee's in New Chester, to the east side of Newfound pond thence on to a road leading from Plymouth to Coos in Rumney." This turnpike, as constructed, commenced near the Peaslee grave-yard, south of Smith's river, and extended to West Plymouth, a distance of sixteen miles. The incorporators were authorized to establish as many gates as thought necessary, and the rates of toll for each mile were as follows:

Every ten sheep or swine	1 cent
Every ten cattle or horses	2 cents
Every horse rode or led	2 cents
Every sulky, chaise, chair, with one horse and two wheels	2 cents
Every chariot, coach, stage, phaeton or chaise, with two horses and four wheels	4 cents

Other pleasure carriage or carriages of burden drawn by one horse	1 cent
Same by two beasts	1 1-2 cents
For each additional yoke of oxen or pair of horses	1 cent
For each sleigh with one horse	1 1-2 cents
For each sleigh with two horses	2 cents
For each additional horse	1 cent
Sled with one horse	1 cent
With two horses	1 1-2 cents
For each additional pair of horses or oxen	1 cent

It was a condition of the charter that the toll-gates should be kept open when not tended, and there was a fine of three times the toll for turning aside to avoid payment of toll. There were also certain exemptions, as those going to and from church or a funeral, those traveling in town where they resided, and the militia, under arms, going to or returning from military duty. To compensate the corporation for the free use of the pike by the inhabitants of the town, it was usual for those living along the pike to work out their highway taxes thereon. At the end of each six years, the company made a report to the justice of the superior court, and if the net dividends exceeded nine per cent., the justice could reduce the rates. Three years were given in which to complete the road and the state reserved the right to take the road at the end of forty years by paying its cost and nine per cent. added.

Peter Mayhew was the leading spirit in the building of this road. He was a Frenchman or a French Canadian and resided in Rumney. His son, William, lived for a few years, while the road was being built and after, in a little house on the east side of the pike just south of the present farmhouse of E. T. Pike. The turnpike was largely constructed, and perhaps completed and opened to the public, in 1805. It greatly facilitated travel from the northern part of the state, and increased business in this village, especially among the tavern keepers.

Previous to the building of the Mayhew turnpike, the only road from Bristol to the head of the lake, on the east shore, was by way of Whittemore's point. This circuitous route was avoided by cutting a straight road through the woods from where is now the Bridgewater post-office to the schoolhouse south of the old Hoyt tavern stand.

The only toll-gate in this village was on North Main street, two or three rods south of the present residence of Charles H. Proctor. The toll-gate house was a low posted, one-story structure of four rooms that stood close to the traveled highway. From a post on the west side of the highway swung a large arm or gate across the road to the southwest corner of the house,

where it was fastened, when not open for travel, by a wooden pin inserted into the corner post of the house.

During the first forty years of the last century the turnpikes of New Hampshire aided materially in the development of the state, but the exactions and burdens they imposed were borne with ill grace by the people. July 2, 1838, an act passed the legislature authorizing selectmen and the courts to take the franchise and other rights of corporations for public highways in the same manner as the lands of individuals. This caused an assault to be made against the turnpikes all over the state.

At the November term of court at Plymouth in 1839, a petition was presented by Thomas Paine and others praying that a public highway be laid out four rods wide from the inn of Thomas Paine in West Plymouth to the east meeting-house in Hill. A hearing on this petition was given at the court of common pleas at Plymouth on the first Tuesday in January, 1840, and, the petition appearing reasonable, Larkin Baker, of Westmoreland, Charles Flanders, of Plainfield, and Hon. Henry B. Rust, of Wolfeboro, were named as a committee to lay out the highway asked for, if, in their opinion, the public good required it. This committee met at the inn of Thomas Paine, Sept. 10, 1840, and gave a hearing, and at the November term of court reported that in their opinion the public good did require the laying out of the highway, and that they had laid out the same four rods wide "from the head of the turnpike between the house formerly occupied by Thomas Paine and that then occupied by Solomon Jones at the intersection of the road leading from Plymouth to Haverhill, and continuing south over the Mayhew turnpike to the southern terminus thereof in the town of Hill."

The damage to the Mayhew turnpike corporation was fixed at \$1,600, and this was apportioned among the several towns interested as follows: Plymouth, \$340.70; Hebron, \$366.49; Bridgewater, \$337.29; Bristol, \$529.09; Hill, \$26.43. Thus this historic turnpike that had so materially aided in the development of this section, was carved up and given to the several towns named to be maintained, and the annoyance of the toll-gatherer ceased.

The construction of the Mayhew turnpike turned the travel from the road on the west side of New Chester mountain, and caused the readjustment of the highways in this section of the town. In 1808, Moses Lewis and others petitioned the town of Bridgewater to lay out a road from what is now the south end of Lake street to the bridge on Pleasant street. This road appears to have been made about this time, but not laid out by the town. New Chester continued the road from the river to the town line at South Alexandria. Bridgewater laid out this piece of road Mar. 12, 1821, the description being that it ex-

tended from the "guide post near Richard H. Sawyer's," known in late years as the Andrew J. Crockett residence, "to the bridge near Robert Brown's shop." On the same date, the eastern part of Pleasant street and Lake street to Willow were laid out, described as extending "from Bartlett's store to Walter Sleeper's." Mr. Sleeper lived at that time in what has been known for many years as the "tannery house." This road was opened to travel as early as 1800.

The road from "Smith's upper dam" on Smith's river past the Favor Locke farmhouse to the new road from Bristol village to South Alexandria was discontinued in 1810, and the rest of the road on the west side of the mountain to Willow street was used only a few years longer. The road where is now Prospect street, laid out in 1781, was voted Apr. 23, 1811, to be discontinued in thirteen months from that date.

Mar. 8, 1808, New Chester voted in favor of a road from John Smith's fulling-mill to the northern end of the turnpike bridge over Smith's river.

On both sides of Newfound river, where is now Bristol village, was an alder swamp. The first buildings in Central square were built three or four feet above the level of the street in front. In 1820, the town voted to improve the approach to the bridge by filling "the hollow" north of it; and the job was considered so large that the selectmen were instructed to let the job by vendue. The filling process has been going on until the present time. In 1868, or '69, when Albert Blake was highway surveyor, he raised the grade of the road from three to four feet from the bridge to Church street; and in 1900, when Central square was macadamized, the grade was raised from twelve to fifteen inches to its present level.

Central street was not laid out as a highway till May 27, 1824, when Central bridge was being constructed. At a town meeting held Apr. 19, 1824, the selectmen were authorized to make a return of this road as laid out by them on condition that the land could be had free of expense to the town. This was the earliest road or "path" to branch from the main road in New Chester, being opened in 1767, when the first grist-mill was erected where is now the Train-Smith Company's pulp-mill. At first this path was evidently close to the stream, and so continued till the erection of buildings on the bank crowded the "path" farther to the north. Apr. 16, 1817, F. J. Tay sold to Robert Smith a blacksmith shop standing "in the old highway, near Turnpike bridge over Newfound river which I lately erected."<sup>1</sup> Other facts could be mentioned to substantiate this point.

In 1835, Robert Morse, who owned the stage line from

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<sup>1</sup> First building where is now the Abel block.



Haverhill to Concord, desired a new road from Bristol village to Smith's river, to avoid the hills between these two points. The route desired was from the Prescott tavern on South Main street, down the south bank of Newfound river to the Pemigewasset; thence very nearly as the railroad now runs to Smith's river; there again uniting with the turnpike. The town would not consent to the laying out of the road on account of the great expense involved, and the fact that it would simply parallel the turnpike; and Mr. Morse petitioned the court to lay out the road. The court appointed a committee to view the route, and lay out the road if it was thought that the public good demanded it. A special town meeting was, therefore, held Aug. 17, 1836, at which it was voted "that if the committee appointed by the court lay out said road to choose an agent to select twelve men to examine the route and estimate the probable cost, take their depositions and go to court and oppose the laying out of the road." Robert Smith was chosen the agent.

The committee laid out the road practically as petitioned for, and another special town meeting was held June 3, 1837. At this time, the agent was authorized to carry the case to the superior court of judicature. This was done, and the case came up for a hearing at the July term, 1837, and was transferred to the December term of Merrimack county. This court appointed a committee consisting of Salma Hale, Larkin Baker, and Joseph Lowe, Esqrs., "to view the route laid out by the first committee and all and every proposed substitute routes." They attended to their duties Apr. 21, 1838, and recommended "a substitute for the road laid by the former committee, that the new road commence on the east side of the Mayhew turnpike about fifteen rods north of the dwelling-house of Jonathan Merrill, and passing south till it intersects the road laid out by the former committee; thence to Smith's river," on the route laid out by the former committee, there uniting again with the turnpike. Mr. Merrill lived at that time about a mile south of Central square.

The land damage was appraised at \$225. The town voted to lay out the road as recommended by the second committee. This was done and the road was constructed in 1838, the work being divided into twenty sections and auctioneered out. It was opened to the public May 1, 1839. We are not informed as to its cost, but whatever it was it was paid for out of the surplus revenue. The road did not prove as satisfactory as was expected. It was very sandy, and at very high water of the Pemigewasset a portion of it was overflowed, and the turnpike had to be used. The road was discontinued in 1859.

While these things were taking place, the town had trouble with its roads in other directions. The court had again indicted

the river road, and Mar. 14, 1837, Robert Smith was chosen an agent to go to court to get the indictment removed.

Aug. 3, 1836, a road was laid out from the turnpike down the south side of Newfound river, starting from Prescott's tavern, to the factory then being erected, now the pulp-mill of the Mason-Perkins Paper company near the depot.

June 10, 1839, Merrimack street was laid out from Central street to a point about where Charles P. George now resides. This street was extended to Summer street in 1843, was straightened and widened in 1865, and again straightened July 21, 1869. It was laid out two and one-half rods wide.

At a town meeting held Oct. 30, 1841, the town voted to rebuild, during the following year, the Central square bridge twenty-four feet wide, with good plank.

Oct. 30, 1841, the road to the "clay pit," or brick-yard, at Profile Falls, from the old road over New Chester mountain, was discontinued, and a new road was laid out from the "clay pit" east to the turnpike. The last named road was discontinued May 1, 1878.

May 2, 1848, the railroad commissioners laid out the road over the falls of Newfound river, from Central street to the contemplated depot, the town giving the right of way, and agreeing to maintain the road after it was constructed. The starting point of the survey was in Central square at "a butter-nut tree twenty-four and one-half feet" from the corner of Emerson's block "on line of Central street." The Franklin and Bristol railroad corporation paid \$2,000 for the construction of this road.

Union street was laid out in 1850, but had been open for travel, and been known for many years as the "lane."

Spring street was opened previous to 1820, from Central square to where Nathaniel S. Berry lived, now the residence of Clarence N. Merrill. It was laid out as a highway two rods wide, from Central square to Merrimack street, Sept. 7, 1851.

In 1853, a road was laid out from the turnpike to Joseph Rollins's saw-mill, near where is now the Electric Light company's power-house. This road was discontinued in 1868, and reopened in 1892.

In March, 1856, the town voted to discontinue the road in the Locke neighborhood running through lands of Levi Locke and Daniel Smith to that of Abram Dolloff.

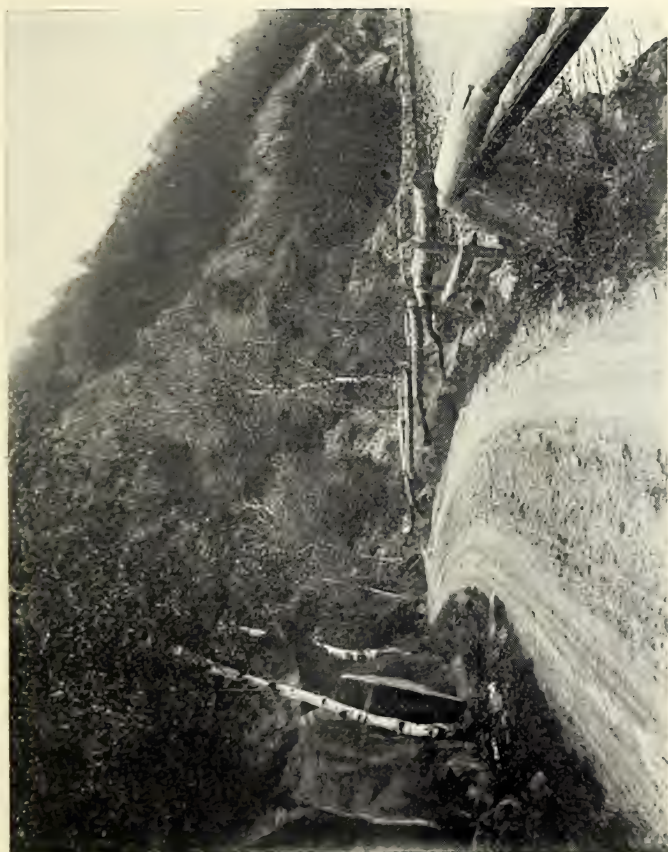
Apr. 9, 1857, Beech street was laid out from South Main to the residence of David P. Prescott; was extended farther west May 3, 1873; and was extended "to the stone wall," Nov. 2, 1885, forty-four feet wide.

Dec. 3, 1860, School street was laid out from Summer to the present residence of Hon. L. W. Fling; was extended to the base of Sugar hill, and Cedar street was laid out from School

street to the residence of Green L. Tilton on North Main, Aug. 6, 1870.

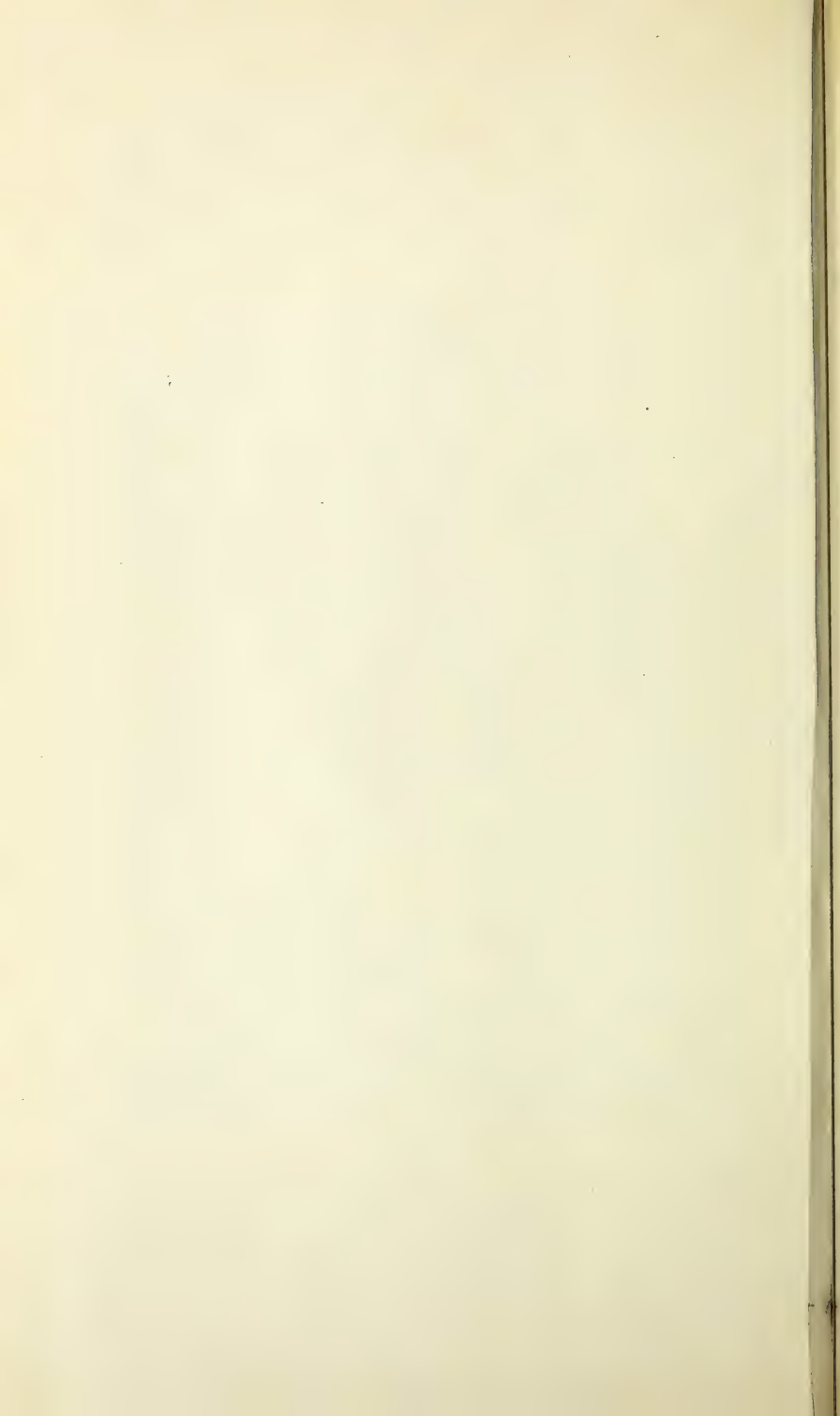
Previous to 1862, all the travel between Bristol and Hebron village was, of necessity, by way of Bridgewater, on the east side of Newfound lake, a distance of ten miles, passing over a very steep hill at the head of the lake. Hon. N. S. Berry, who, since 1840, had resided in Hebron, had advocated for some years the construction of a road between Hebron and Bristol on the west side of the lake. This route was shorter by two miles, and was less hilly, but public sentiment was opposed to its construction on account of the great expense involved. Apr. 10, 1857, Mr. Berry and others filed a petition with the court for the laying out of a road from a stake and stones "a little south of the schoolhouse in Elam Ross's school district on the west side of the lake to a stake and stones in the highway leading from Alexandria to Bristol village," at the corner of Lake and Union streets. This petition was referred to the commissioners of Grafton county for the purpose of examining the ground, of hearing all parties interested, and of laying out the highway, if, in their opinion, the public good required it. Oscar F. Fowler, one of the commissioners, was disqualified from acting, on account of being a resident of Bristol, and John Sargent of Littleton was appointed in his place. A hearing was held at the house of William Clement, in Hebron, Aug. 24, 1857; and the road was laid out Sept. 3, 1857. The commissioners made their report at the following term of court in November of that year, stating that the public good required the construction of the road, and that they had laid out the road as asked for, and awarded land damages in Bristol to the amount of \$879.50; in Alexandria, to the amount of forty cents, and in Hebron, to the amount of \$92. The cost of construction was estimated at \$5,419, besides damages, a total of \$6,390.90. The cost of construction was apportioned as follows: To Hebron, \$600; to Alexandria, \$2,860; to Bristol, \$1,959. On account of the large expense to Alexandria and small benefit, and the large benefit to Groton, the commissioners assessed Groton \$500 and relieved the town of Alexandria to that amount. This report was signed by D. C. Churchill, John Sargent, and Joseph Parker. The road as laid out was four rods wide, except such part as was laid out over the highway then traveled, where it was three rods wide. This report was recommitted to give certain parties a rehearing on the question of land damages, and a final report was made on the third Tuesday in May, 1858, making a slight change in the award. The building of the road was a hardship to Alexandria, and was earnestly opposed by that town; but its great benefit to the public at large has proved the wisdom of its construction. That portion between the lake and Sugar Loaf mountain was exceptionally hard and costly to construct. The





SUGAR LOAF ROAD





precipitous side of Sugar Loaf and the very deep water at its base made it necessary to blast off large quantities of the overhanging ledges. Large iron pins were inserted in the ledges beneath the water, and above these pins logs were placed on which the road was built. The ledges at this point are objects of interest to sightseers at all seasons of the year. While witnessing the blasting of the ledges, a spectator, Sanborn Gale, lost his life by being struck by a flying piece of rock.

Nov. 3, 1858, the selectmen laid out that part of Lake street from Union to the bridge near the mill of the Dodge-Davis Manufacturing company, over the same route laid out by the commissioners. The old road from Union to Willow street, west of the new road, was discontinued the next year. In 1860, Bristol raised \$500 to construct the road to North Bristol, and, in 1861, \$800 to build the rest of the way. Alexandria constructed its part along the base of Sugar Loaf in 1862, and the road was opened to travel soon after.

After the construction of the dam at the outlet of the lake in 1848, the road on the west side of the lake near the south part was, whenever the water in the lake was high, overflowed and rendered impassable. This matter caused some friction between the town and the Winnepesaukee Lake Cotton and Woolen Manufacturing company, and came up for action at a town meeting Mar. 8, 1864. It was then voted to instruct the selectmen to lay the matter before the grand jury. Another meeting was held Aug. 11, when James T. Sanborn, George W. Dow, and Joseph Kidder were elected agents of the town to confer with this company. They were instructed to relinquish all claims of the town against the company, provided the company would raise the grade of the road. This was agreed to. The selectmen laid out another road on higher ground on the west side of the lake, and the new road was built. November 14, 1865, the committee reported that the new road had been built in a thorough manner, costing \$1,043, of which the Lake company had paid three-fourths; and it was recommended that the town relinquish all claims for flowage. This report was accepted.

Mar. 14, 1865, Pleasant street was straightened. As originally laid out, the road crossed the river about forty feet below the present bridge, made a bend to the north, and then to the south, between the river and the cemetery.

Oct. 14, 1865, a road was laid out from the house of F. H. Bartlett, on Smith's river, to land of I. K. George.

Sept. 10, 1866, Chandler street was laid out from Lake street to the residence of M. G. Chandler. It was relaid Oct. 1, 1900.

Sept. 10, 1866, Winter street was laid out from School to near the residence of T. E. Osgood.

Mar. 12, 1866, a road was laid out over Pemigewasset bridge.

May 29, 1869, Spruce street, from Summer to the eastern end of Winter, was laid out.

Nov. 27, 1869, Prospect street was laid out to a point eighteen rods from High; Dec. 17, 1870, extended fifty-two rods; Nov. 7, 1898, it was extended thirty-one rods and nineteen links, three rods wide.

March, 1870, a road was laid out from the Nelson road to the site of J. H. Bean's house, destroyed by fire, where A. G. Robie now resides.

June 15, 1872, Second street was laid out from Beech to Prospect.

June 15, 1872, Church street, from South Main to Second, was laid out.

Sept. 10, 1872, a road was laid out from the Nelson road to a cider-mill that George A. Robie had in operation on Danforth's brook.

Nov. 22, 1872, the northern part of Crescent street was laid out from Lake to Simeon H. Cross's, thirty-two feet wide; Nov. 3, 1887, it was extended to the house of Etta Simonds; Dec. 13, 1895, it was again extended, to the Alexandria road near the residence of David P. Hoyt; extensions, thirty-eight feet wide.

May 3, 1873, Third street was laid out from Beech to Prospect.

Oct. 28, 1873, a road was laid out from School street to the schoolhouse grounds.

Sept. 28, 1874, a road was laid out from the turnpike to Thomas H. Wicom's and Samuel Hilands's.

July 1, 1876, Walnut street, from Second to Third, was laid out.

Nov. 27, 1876, a road was laid out from Summer street to the house of Charles M. Musgrove, east of Sugar hill.

July 21, 1877, a road was laid out from the dwelling-house of Levi N. Heath, thirteen rods over Mr. Heath's land.

May 1, 1878, the old road over New Chester mountain was discontinued from the Sleeper burying-ground to the road on the north bank of Smith's river.

For many years previous to 1882, the Mayhew turnpike between where David M. Chase now lives and North Bristol had been used so little that an article was inserted in the warrant for the annual town meeting of that year to see if the town would vote to discontinue it. The town voted, wisely, not to discontinue. Several dwellings have since been erected there, and this road is now much used.

Sept. 29, 1885, Hillside avenue was laid out from Lake street to the residence of George Scott Tilton; Oct. 27, 1885, extended six rods to land of Roswell Blake; May 9, 1896, extended to the old turnpike, now North Main street.

Sept. 16, 1889, Mayhew street was laid out from North Main to School.

Oct. 9, 1894, a street was laid out from the dwelling of S. H. Cross north to the house of Fred J. Ballou.

Nov. 9, 1897, Green street, from Chandler south to Hillside avenue, was laid out. This street is two rods wide from the starting point to the southeast corner of land of Alvin Goodhue, thence two rods, four feet.

June 4, 1898, the county commissioners laid out a road, two rods wide, from High street west, between the dwellings of F. H. Briggs and G. W. Sumner.

Nov. 20, 1900, a short street was laid out from the easterly side of Green street about twenty rods in an easterly direction to residence of J. W. Tewksbury.

On the 9th of October, 1883, an exhibition of the work of the road machine was made on Lake street. In the call for the next annual town meeting an article was inserted "To see if the town will vote to buy a road machine." The town voted to pass the article without action; but, in 1887, the selectmen purchased, without instructions, a machine at a cost of \$250, and the good work it did proved the wisdom of the purchase.

In 1892, the town voted to make a complete survey of the village for sewers; and this was done in 1895.

The large amount of heavy teaming on Lake street and the eastern part of Pleasant street, made it imperative that a road should be constructed better than could be made in the ordinary way. After a few years' discussion of the comparative value and cost of concrete and macadam, public opinion selected the latter; and, in 1892, the town voted to buy a stone crusher. Here the matter rested till 1898, when the town purchased a stone crusher and steam roller at a cost of \$4,794, and adopted Chapter 78 of the General Statutes of 1897. That season the eastern part of Pleasant street was macadamized at an expense of \$1,066, taken from the regular appropriation for highways. In 1899, \$2,000 was voted for macadam roads, and the work was extended on Lake street to near Union, at a cost of \$2,355. The sentiment of the town appeared at that time to be to appropriate about this amount each year till the work was completed; but at the next annual town meeting, it was voted, on motion of Capt. W. A. Bickford, to raise \$21,000 on the bonds of the town to complete the work. After adjournment, it was discovered that the vote did not conform to the law in all respects, and a special town meeting was held Apr. 10, 1900, at which time the following vote was passed by ballot as the law required:

Voted, that the town raise \$15,000 to build macadam road and necessary sewers connected with same, and to raise bonds therefor under the act known as the municipal bond act of 1895, said bonds to draw three



per cent. and not taxable if held in Bristol, N. H., all to be payable within seventeen years from the time of issue of the bonds first issued in evidence of said debt, and that there be \$1,200 raised each year for interest and sinking fund to meet the bonds.

The whole number of names on the checklist at that time was five hundred and twenty-six ; the whole number of votes cast, two hundred and ninety-one ; necessary to carry, one hundred and ninety-four. Two hundred and seventy-one voted "yes," and twenty voted "no," and the motion was carried.

Under this vote the macadam road was extended to the bridge on Lake street near the woolen-mill ; and nearly all of Central square and a portion of Central street were covered. In all of this territory, substantial sewers were laid, supposed to be ample for all requirements for many years. To do this work, \$14,871 of the \$15,000 was expended.

The work of 1898 was done under the supervision of Road Agents S. H. Cross, Nathan P. Smith, and Henry A. Welch ; that in 1899 and 1900, by Road Agent G. L. Tilton. S. A. Howard, of New Hampton, who laid most of the concrete in town, had the immediate charge of the work.

In 1898, a bicycle path was constructed from Central square to the paper mills.

In 1900, the town laid out \$200 for sprinkling its streets, and has since continued appropriations for this purpose each year.

Previous to 1860, the town had given no attention to its sidewalks. A rude sidewalk was maintained in most of the streets by the abutters. In 1873, the highway agents were instructed to maintain suitable sidewalks in the principal part of the village. As late as 1880, not a sidewalk was broken out in winter by the town authorities, and all pedestrians traveled in the middle of the highway, even in season of deep snows.

The first concrete sidewalk laid in town was put down by Albert Blake in front of his residence, at the corner of South Main and Church streets. About 1877, the selectmen commenced to lay concrete sidewalks at the expense of the town, and this has been continued from time to time. All the principal streets in the village now have a concrete walk on one or both sides. The largest amount paid out for concrete in one year was in 1889, when \$1,550 was expended ; in 1892, an additional amount of \$1,464 was laid out.

Until recent years, the town was divided into highway districts, and a highway surveyor was elected for each. Each of these surveyors was given a book containing the highway taxes of his district, and every tax-payer was expected to pay his highway tax in labor. The number of districts, and consequently the number of surveyors, varied from time to time. Bristol started, in 1820, with thirteen districts ; in 1823, there were fifteen ; in



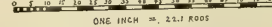
# MAP OF BRISTOL VILLAGE

SHOWING OWNERS OF ALL BUILDINGS  
JAN. 1, 1903

## EXPLANATION

- PUBLIC STREETS
- RESIDENCES
- PUBLIC BUILDINGS, MILLS, ISOLATED BARN, ETC.
- PRIVATE WAYS
- FIRE ALARM BOXES

## SCALE OF RODS



## KEY TO REFERENCES

- 1-Bristol Savings Bank
- 2-C H Prescott-HOTEL BRISTOL
- 3-MISS SLEEPER LIBRARY
- 4-G A Robt
- 5-Mrs I A Chase
- 6-J W Wilbur & Co
- 7-M W White
- 8-Curtis Bros
- 9-G A Emerson
- 10-K E Dearborn
- 11-H N Emmons and K E Dearborn
- 12-C H Tukey-POST OFFICE
- 13-C H Tukey
- 14-C H Tukey
- 15-G A Emerson
- 16-H H Wark
- 17-Bristol Improvement Co-SHOP
- 18-C H Merrill-BRISTOL ENTERPRISE
- 19-C H Merrill-GAST-MILL
- 20-Marshall Ballou and B L A Wells
- 21-C W Holmes-MACHINE SHOP
- 22-C W Holmes
- 23-Bristol Aqueduct Co
- 24-C W Merrill
- 25-Mrs Ellen E Wheat
- 26-Mrs Esther Hemphill
- 27-Al Blake
- 28-Al Blake
- 29-Kent & Blake
- 30-R Blake
- 31-R Blake
- 32-Calley & Currier
- 33-Calley & Currier
- 34-M H Hutchins
- 35-Chas Boardman and K E Dearborn
- 36-Mrs C H Leighton
- 37-SOLDIER'S MONUMENT
- 38-Mrs J D Emerson

1838, seventeen, and in 1860, twenty. The last election of highway surveyors was in 1869, when ten were elected. Subsequently, the selectmen appointed the surveyors. Those who did not pay their highway taxes in work were required to pay in money, and with this the surveyors hired laborers to do the work. So much better results were obtained from men working for money than from those simply working to pay their taxes that frequently the town voted to make a discount on highway taxes paid in this way. In 1848, it voted a discount of twenty-five cents on the dollar for all highway taxes paid before June 1. This discount was continued for some years. At that time, workmen on the highways were allowed only ten cents per hour. In 1848, it was also voted to allow ten cents per hour for a yoke of oxen; the same for a cart and wheels, a plow, and a scraper. In 1860, the discount made for cash was seventeen cents on the dollar. Since then, the discount when made has been from five to ten per cent.

Gradually, the selectmen assumed charge of the highways, and appointed men in various parts of the town to act in case of emergency, like the washing of the roads by a freshet or a sudden shower, or the blocking of the roads by snow; and the highway taxes were collected as a money tax as now. Under this system all who desired to work out their taxes were given the privilege. This system prevailed in Bristol till 1893, when the law compelled the election of road agents, and since then the roads have been under the care of one or more highway agents. The prevailing price of labor on the highways in recent years has been \$1.25 per day, though some years it has been \$1.50.

## CHAPTER XII

### POST-ROUTES AND POST-RIDERS, MAILS AND POST-MASTERS

From the road with sudden sweep  
The Mail drove up the little steep,  
And stopped beside the tavern door.  
—*Longfellow.*

Previous to the Revolutionary war there was no regular mode of conveying the mails in any portion of New Hampshire. A post-office had been established at Portsmouth at some date previous to the war and Eleazer Russell was the first postmaster. The Fourth Provincial Congress, which met at Exeter May 17, 1775, "established" or continued an office there and made Samuel Penhallow postmaster. The postmaster and the members of the Provincial Congress from Portsmouth were made a committee to secure post-riders, and they evidently at once established a route between Portsmouth and Exeter, for on the twenty-sixth of that same month the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts voted that the post-rider from Cambridge to Haverhill, Mass., should extend his route to Exeter "to meet the post-rider from Portsmouth, a post-office having been established at Exeter."

Letters received at these offices destined for the interior of the state remained there till called for or a chance opportunity offered to forward them to their destination. It was not till 1781 that a post-rider penetrated the interior of the state. On the twenty-seventh of July of this year the Committee of Safety at Exeter employed John Balch of Keene to ride post for three months. He was to start on a Saturday morning from Portsmouth and to ride to Haverhill via Concord, New Chester, and Plymouth and thence down the Connecticut river to Charlestown, thence to Keene and back to Portsmouth. He was to make this trip once in two weeks and to receive for his services seventy hard dollars. This summer arrangement was probably continued till 1785.

At the fall session of the legislature at Concord in 1785, a joint committee of the two houses was appointed, for the purpose of "reporting a plan to employ a person to ride post through the state." The result was the passage at that session



of an act to establish two post-routes. One was from Portsmouth through Exeter, Nottingham, Concord, New Chester, and Plymouth, to Haverhill, thence down the Connecticut river to Charlestown, Keene, Amherst, and Exeter, back to Portsmouth. The other was from Portsmouth through Dover to Wakefield, Tamworth, around Lake Winnepesaukee through Gilmanton, Barnstead, Barrington, Dover, back to Portsmouth. His excellency, the president of New Hampshire, was authorized to appoint post-riders and postmasters, to pay them for their services, and, from time to time, to fix the rate of postage.

On the third of the following March, probably before the above named routes were put into operation, another joint committee was chosen to see what changes were necessary; and the result was, a report that these routes were insufficient to accommodate the public; the act authorizing their establishment was repealed and four routes were established in their stead. This act gave the president of the state power to appoint a postmaster-general, to direct him where to establish post-offices, to appoint postmasters, to employ or direct the postmaster-general, to employ a suitable number of post-riders, to fix the rate of postage, "so that newspapers, letters and mails may be transported in the most easy, safe and expeditious manner, to the various parts of the state, through the several towns following, viz.":

One post to leave Portsmouth on Monday and proceed through Exeter, Nottingham, Concord, and Plymouth to Haverhill, Orford and Hanover, and from thence to return through Boscawen, Northfield and Canterbury to Epsom, thence to Newmarket and Portsmouth.

Another post to set out from Portsmouth on Thursday, the next week, and proceed through Exeter, Kingston, Chester, Londonderry and Litchfield to Amherst, and to return through Dunstable, Salem, Plaistow and Kingston to Portsmouth. The above two posts to ride one week to Hanover, and the next week to Amherst, alternately.

Another post to receive the mail at Amherst and proceed through Keene to Charlestown and return through Hillsboro to Amherst.

And another mail to set out weekly on Monday from Portsmouth, and proceed through Stratham, Newmarket, Durham, Dover, Rochester, Wakefield and Ossipee to Conway, and return through Tamworth, Moultonboro, Meredith, Gilmanton, Barnstead and Barrington to Portsmouth.

At the June session of 1786, the act authorizing the above named routes was repealed and a resolve passed reestablishing two routes. One post was to "leave Portsmouth on Monday, and proceed through Exeter, Nottingham, Concord, and Plymouth, to Haverhill; thence down the river to Charlestown; thence through Keene, Amherst, Merrimack, Londonderry, Chester, and Exeter to Portsmouth." This tour was to be performed once every fortnight.

Another post was to "set off every other Monday from Portsmouth, and thence proceed through Newmarket, Durham,

Dover, Rochester, Wakefield, Ossipee Gore, and Tamworth, to Moultonboro; thence through Meredith, Gilmanton, Barnstead, Barrington, and Dover, to Portsmouth." Samuel Dearborn was appointed post-rider for the northern route, but was succeeded in September following by Naham Ackerman.

At the January session of the legislature in 1791, four routes were again established. Two routes started from Portsmouth and two from Concord. The northern route, so called, from Concord, was through Boscawen, Salisbury, Andover, New Chester, Plymouth, Haverhill, Piermont, Orford, Lyme, Hanover, Lebanon, Enfield, Canaan, Grafton, Alexandria, and Salisbury, to Concord. Naham Ackerman was post-rider of this route.

The post-riders were to receive as compensation, on all private letters, six pence for every forty miles, and four pence for any number of miles less than forty; on packages, according to weight. State documents were to be carried free. The post-riders were to make one trip each week for six months commencing with the first day of April, and one trip each two weeks for six months commencing with the first day of October. They were to alternate in the direction traveled.

This act provided for the appointment of ten postmasters: At Portsmouth, Exeter, Concord, Amherst, Dover, Keene, Charlestown, Hanover, Haverhill, and Plymouth. The postmasters were to receive as compensation two pence on each private letter or package. Both post-riders and postmasters gave bonds to the state treasurer for the faithful performance of their duties, and both were to present their accounts yearly to the General Court, which might grant them additional compensation if deemed reasonable.

As important as these measures were to the prosperity of the state, they met with strong opposition, and the last measure passed the house by only one majority, the vote being thirty-four in the affirmative and thirty-three in the negative.

Under this act, John Rogers was appointed postmaster at Plymouth, the nearest post-office to New Chester, and George Hough, at Concord; while John Lathrop, of Lebanon, was made post-rider.

When the route from Bristol to Plymouth was first established, it was over the road from this village up the hill through the Locke neighborhood; thence over the old road, long since abandoned, to the Bridgewater meeting-house, and thence to Plymouth; and it so continued for some years.

Previous to 1800, the post-office department of the general government had extended its authority over New Hampshire. In 1802, the following rates of postage prevailed: For a single letter, not exceeding forty miles, eight cents; over forty and not exceeding ninety miles, ten cents; over ninety and not exceeding

one hundred and fifty miles, twelve and one-half cents; over one hundred and fifty and not exceeding three hundred miles, seventeen cents; over three hundred and not exceeding five hundred miles, twenty cents; over five hundred miles, twenty-five cents.

The northern route continued till 1817, without material change. April 12, of that year, the postmaster-general advertised for proposals to carry the mails in New Hampshire. The number of routes was largely increased. The route which accommodated this section was from Concord, through Salisbury, Andover, New Chester, Bridgewater, Plymouth, New Holderness, New Hampton, Salisbury, and Boscawen, back to Concord, and was called forty-eight miles. The post-rider was to leave Concord Tuesday morning and arrive at Plymouth at 11 a. m., Wednesday; to leave Plymouth at 2 p. m. the same day and arrive at Concord at 6 p. m., Thursday. It will thus be seen that twenty-eight hours was allowed the post-rider to travel the forty-eight miles, and that the trips were to be made once a week.

A forfeit of one dollar was imposed on the post-rider for every thirty minutes' delay in arriving at a given point at a specified time, and if the delay extended beyond the time of departure of a depending mail, the fine was trebled.

This route did not long continue, and in its place a route was established from Concord to McCrillis's tavern in Canterbury, Northfield meeting-house, Sanbornton, New Hampton, across the river to Bridgewater, and thence to Plymouth and Haverhill; and another from Concord, to Boscawen, Salisbury, Andover, New Chester, Bristol, and Bridgewater, over the Mayhew turnpike, to Rumney and Haverhill. These routes continued practically unchanged till the advent of the iron horse. Stages for the two routes traveled together from Haverhill to West Plymouth or the "head of the turnpike," from which point one went to Plymouth and New Hampton, and thence to Concord on the eastern side of the Pemigewasset; and the other came to Bristol and proceeded to Concord on the western side of the river.

The names of but few of the post-riders have come down to us. Samuel Harriman was post-rider in 1816, and advertised in the *New Hampshire Patriot* of Apr. 9, of that year, for the payment of all bills due him for papers, etc., stating that he would be at Dodge's inn in Bridgewater village on the twenty-sixth of that month for the purpose of receiving what was due him. Peter Dudley was for many years a rider on this route.

Simon Harris succeeded Harriman as post-rider, and drove from Haverhill to Concord. He takes the same method to collect his pay for services as his predecessor, and inserts an advertisement in the *Patriot* of Dec. 14, 1820, as follows: "Simon



Harris, mail-carrier from Concord through Plymouth to Haverhill would inform the public that his contract for carrying the mails will expire the first of January next, at which time payment must be made for newspapers as well as for transacting other business, the printer being very urgent. Those subscribers who live off the road will leave the pay where their papers are left, where they may find their bills receipted."

The first attempt to substitute the coach for the horse and rider on the route from Haverhill to Concord via Bristol was made in 1811; but it soon failed for lack of support. In the spring of 1814, Robert Morse passed a subscription paper in every town on the route for assistance in starting a stage-coach. The result was that that summer a four-horse, covered coach made its first trip from Concord to Haverhill.<sup>1</sup> The event was a great one. Col. Silas May held the ribbons and blew the horn; while Robert Morse and a company of friends filled the coach and had a free ride from Concord to Haverhill. Business was largely suspended along the route, and the people turned out to rejoice over the innovation and to welcome the stage-coach. The running of the stage-coach, thus happily inaugurated, continued; and Robert Morse was for many years at the head of the Haverhill and Concord stage line.

In July, 1821, Robert Morse again electrified this whole section with the announcement that he would run the Haverhill and Concord stage the rest of that season twice a week; that the stage would leave Sinclair hotel in Haverhill Mondays and Fridays at 4 o'clock a. m., and arrive at Wilson Stickney's in Concord at 5 p. m., same day; that the stage would leave Stickney's Tuesdays and Saturdays at 4 a. m., and arrive at Sinclair's at 5 p. m., and connect with the Coos stage that run from Haverhill to Lancaster, and the Passumpsic stage from Haverhill to Barret, Vt., St. Johnsbury, Vt., Sutton, Vt., and on to Stanstead, Lower Canada. These stages probably carried the mails each trip, though the government paid for carrying them only once each week.

Commencing Jan. 1, 1833, Bristol had each week three mails from the north and three from the south. A four-horse post coach left Concord each day for the north. One day it traveled on the west side of the Pemigewasset through Franklin, Hill, Bristol, Bridgewater, West Plymouth, and Rumney, to Haverhill; the next day, south through Plymouth and New Hampton, and thence to Concord on the east side of the river; the next day after the first coach left Concord another traveled north on the east side and down the west side of the Pemigewasset through Bristol back to Concord. In 1835, a four-horse coach passed daily through Bristol from the north and another

<sup>1</sup> History of Warren.



from the south. The coaches going south stopped at Prescott's tavern for dinner; those going north arrived before the dinner hour and passed on to Hoyt's tavern on the shore of Newfoundland lake, where a stop was made for dinner.

All through these days, the arrival of the stage-coach was an event of great importance, and the entire population was always on the *qui vive* to see it. No matter how fatigued the horses might be, the near approach to a village was the occasion for the driver to put on "airs." Cracking his long whip, the horses were brought into a sharp trot; the driver would sound his horn and drive with graceful curves to the door of the hotel. Here all was bustle and excitement, especially when, as sometimes happened, two and even three coaches, with four or six horses, were required to accommodate the travel, and all arrived at the same time. As soon as the passengers could alight and partake of a glass of grog or toddy at the bar, they took seats at the tables and helped themselves to food. While the meal was in progress, horses were changed, and in a half hour's time the coach was again whirling over the rough road to its next stopping-place.

In May, 1834, a post-office was established in Alexandria, and a post-route established between Bristol and that place.

With the advent of the railroad to Bristol in 1848, the palmy days of the stage-coach disappeared. Instead of four-horse coaches, loaded with passengers, making their daily appearance in this village, three light stages made connection with the train, and conveyed the mails and chance passengers—one stage to Alexandria; one to Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton, and one to New Hampton.

Till May 30, 1881, one daily mail each way continued to be all the postal accommodations given this town, leaving for Boston and other points south in the early morning and reaching Bristol in return the latter part of the afternoon. On that day a noon train commenced to run, reaching Bristol about twelve o'clock, and leaving about one o'clock. This was only a summer arrangement; but while it continued, Bristol had two mails a day.

The first of October, following, the noon train was discontinued, and with it the noon mail. But the people of Bristol did not take kindly to a backward step, and the project of continuing the noon mail by stage was agitated with the result that on the twenty-second of January, 1882, a stage commenced to run between Bristol and Franklin which brought a noon mail, the people of Bristol paying the expense, and the stage being run by Otis K. Bucklin. This continued till the noon train was put on again the next summer. An effort was then made to have the post-office department establish a "star route" mail, to be continued such portion of the year as the noon train did not run.

This was ordered, and commenced to run when the noon train was discontinued in the fall of 1882, George G. Brown, of Bristol, and A. K. Moore, of Franklin, being the contractors. The "star route" service continued during the winters till the spring of 1889, after which the noon train was continued through the year. Since then, two daily mails have been received by train from the south the entire year.

#### POST-OFFICES AND POSTMASTERS.

The first post-office in Bridgewater village, now Bristol, was opened Jan. 1, 1805, and Moses Kelly was the first postmaster. Moses Kelly was a resident in Bridgewater as early as 1800, when he had the "approbation" of the selectmen to sell spirituous liquors. In 1804, he was licensed to sell as a taverner. He was evidently a prominent man in his day. He was a justice of the peace and one of the incorporators of the Mayhew Turnpike corporation. In April, 1805, he was a resident taxpayer in New Chester. April 1, 1807, a post-office was opened there and Moses Kelly became the first postmaster. According to the records of the post-office department at Washington, he served continuously as postmaster of the Bridgewater office from the date of his first appointment till succeeded, in 1816, by Moses Bradley, Esq., and of the New Chester office from the time of his appointment till succeeded in 1810 by Ebenezer Kimball.<sup>1</sup>

The location of this first post-office in Bridgewater cannot now be determined. Mr. Bradley had the office in his residence, on the northern side of Central square, previously owned by Capt. Moses Sleeper and used by him as a tavern. The business of postmaster was not very onerous at this time, as the mails arrived and departed only once a week and the number of letters handled at any one time rarely exceeded a dozen.

The following is a complete list of the postmasters of Bridgewater and Bristol and the time they have served:

1805-1816. Moses Kelly served from Jan. 1, 1805, till May 4, 1816.

1816-1823. Moses H. Bradley, Esq., succeeded Moses Kelly, and served till June 12, 1823.

1823-1830. Ichabod C. Bartlett succeeded Mr. Bradley June 12, 1823, and served seven years. He had the office in his store in Central square.

1830-1841. Solomon Cavis succeeded Mr. Bartlett Feb. 11, 1830, and removed the office to his store where is now White's block. He served eleven years, removing the office about 1833 to what is now the Cavis block.

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<sup>1</sup> *The New Hampshire Register* of these years gives the name of the postmaster at Bridgewater as Moses Kelly, Jr., but this name does not appear in any of the Bridgewater records now in existence.

1841-1844. William L. Chase was the next postmaster, being appointed Aug. 12, 1841. He was in trade in the store that stood where White's block now stands, and here he had the post-office till he resigned to leave town in March, 1844.

1844-1861. Col. Oscar F. Fowler succeeded William L. Chase, Mar. 13, 1844, and removed the office to his harness shop on the corner next to the bridge, and here he held the office over seventeen years, the longest of any incumbent. When he was postmaster, it was not customary to open the office on Sunday noon as now; but it was Col. Fowler's custom, on Saturday night, to take such letters as belonged to persons whom he expected to see on the morrow, and place them in his hat; and, after the morning service at the Methodist church, he would take his stand outside the door and distribute this mail to the people as they came out. This was continued in spite of criticisms by some that it was not a proper thing to do on the sabbath.

1861-1868. Samuel K. Mason was postmaster from June 28, 1861, till May 27, 1868. He removed the office to what is now known as the Abel block, to the rooms now used as a millinery store, on the first floor.

1868-1875. John P. Taylor succeeded to the office May 27, 1868, and continued it in the Abel block.

1875-1882. Albert Blake, Jr., succeeded John P. Taylor, Jan. 25, 1875, and removed the office to its present location in the brick block on the south bank of the river. He served till May 24, 1882.

1882-1885. John H. Brown assumed the duties of postmaster May 24, 1882, and continued in the office till relieved by his successor.

1885-1890. Herbert H. Follansbee succeeded Mr. Brown Sept. 8, 1885. At the commencement of the year 1887, the office was made a "presidential office," third class, salary \$1,000, and Mr. Follansbee was nominated by the President and confirmed by the senate as postmaster Jan. 27, 1887, for another term of four years. He served, however, but little more than four years in all, being succeeded by Capt. William A. Beckford Feb. 20, 1890.

1890-1894. Capt. William A. Beckford served till his successor took possession of the office May 1, 1894.

1894-1898. Charles H. Proctor succeeded Capt. Beckford, and served till July 1, 1898.

1898. Fred H. Ackerman assumed the duties of postmaster July 1, 1898. He was reappointed July 1, 1902, and is therefore the present incumbent.

A post-office was established at Profile Falls June 29, 1892, and discontinued May 31, 1900, Byron B. Tobie being postmaster.

## CHAPTER XIII

### RAILROADS

Singing through the forests,  
Rattling over ridges;  
Shooting under arches,  
Rumbling over bridges;  
Whizzing through the mountains,  
Buzzing o'er the vale—  
Bless me! this is pleasant,  
Riding on the rail.

—*Saxe.*

When the railroad was being constructed from Lowell to Boston, a gentleman delivered in Bristol a lecture on railroads. This lecture was given in the hall in the Fisk block, and the limited space of the hall was packed with interested hearers. This speaker prophesied that the time would come when one could take a train at Bristol in the morning, go to Boston and get his dinner, and return to Bristol in the afternoon. This statement was received with shouts of derisive laughter.

When the Northern road was being constructed from Concord to Franklin, two routes were proposed from Franklin to Lebanon. One was the route selected, and the other was what is now the Bristol branch to Smith's river, and thence up that stream to Danbury.

When the people of Bristol found that the Northern road was not coming to Bristol, the question of building a branch road from Franklin to Bristol was agitated, and public meetings were held to further the scheme. A charter was granted July 8, 1846, for the Franklin and Bristol railroad. The incorporators were Nathaniel S. Berry, Levi Bartlett, Brackett L. Greenough, Oscar F. Fowler, Frederick Bartlett, Samuel C. Brown, Joseph Cass, George W. Sumner, Folsom Morrill, James Crawford, Nicholas M. Taylor, John Ayer, Warren White, and David McClure. The charter authorized the construction of the road from any point in Franklin on the Northern road to Bristol village through Hill.

Public meetings were held from time to time to discuss the situation. The majority favored the construction of the road up the valley of Smith's river to Clark's corner, and from there to Bristol village. Surveys were made over this route; but the expectation that the Boston, Concord and Montreal railroad, which was then being constructed, would not go north of La-



conia, and that the Franklin and Bristol road would be extended to Plymouth, led to the selection of the present route north of Smith's river.

After the charter was obtained, a temporary organization was effected; subscription books were opened, and by hard work \$100,000 was subscribed. There was needed \$50,000 more to construct the line, and no one knew where to look to secure it. Finally, Cyrus Taylor, O. F. Fowler, and Henry Kidder went to Boston to see what could be done there. They had an interview with Charles Theodore Russell, who finally agreed to raise the needed sum if he could be made president of the road at a salary of \$1,500. This was agreed to, and he succeeded in raising the necessary amount.

The first meeting of the first board of directors was held at the Phoenix hotel in Concord, May 20, 1847, when Mr. Russell was elected president, with the promised salary. Col. O. F. Fowler was elected clerk at a salary of \$100, and Thomas H. Russell, of Boston, was made treasurer. The president continued to draw his salary of \$1,500 till September following, when it was reduced to \$800. The only director residing in Bristol was Levi Bartlett.

Surveys were made in June, 1847, and contractors commenced work on the grading and stone work the next month. Robert Smith, Hosea Ballou, William W. Pattee, and Dudley Merrill Cass built the last two sections of the road, ending at the Bristol station. Their contract required the completion of the work by Dec. 1, 1847. Joseph H. Brown, S. A. Howard, and David Powell were other contractors from Bristol or vicinity.

The road was completed the last of June, 1848, and the first regular train left Bristol for Concord on the morning of July 1. The day was one of great rejoicing in Bristol, and the people gave a banquet to the railroad officials at the Bristol hotel, the tables being spread in the open air between the hotel and Pleasant street.

On the 4th of July, the officials of the road gave the people of Bristol a free ride. A long train of cars conveyed several hundred of the people to Concord, where they visited the state prison and other places of interest, and returned in the afternoon.

On the 6th of July, Mr. Russell resigned as president of the road. In his letter of resignation he said: "When I accepted, a little more than a year ago, the presidency of this corporation, I did so for the purpose of constructing this road, and with the distinct understanding on my part that I should resign this trust as soon as your railroad should be completed. That point has now arrived. In a little less than a year since the actual commencement of the grading, you have been able to pass over the road in a regular train of cars. I believe that the road

has been cheaply, expeditiously, and thoroughly constructed." Hon. Geo. A. Nesmith; of Franklin, was elected Mr. Russell's successor.

Before the completion of the road, the subject of uniting with the Northern road was agitated. January 1, 1849, an act passed the legislature authorizing the Northern railroad corporation to absorb the Franklin and Bristol railroad. On the thirty-first of the same month, the stockholders voted in favor of the sale, and the Franklin and Bristol road became a part of the Northern road. Payment was made by giving shares of the Northern road for an equal number of shares of the Franklin and Bristol.

In May, 1884, the Boston and Lowell railroad corporation leased the Northern road for ninety-nine years, and in 1887 the Boston and Lowell was leased to the Boston and Maine. Since the last named date, therefore, the Bristol branch has been operated by the Boston and Maine.

In the spring of 1881, the subject of bringing the road into the village was agitated. Public meetings were held, and a survey was made.<sup>1</sup> The effort did not, however, succeed, but it resulted in the addition of a noon train for the summer season, which train commenced to run May 30, 1881. Until this date, Bristol had but one train a day, and that a mixed train, leaving Bristol in the early forenoon and returning late in the afternoon. The noon train arrived about noon, and left about one o'clock. During the summer of 1884, the trains left Bristol at 8:30 a. m. and 3 p. m. for Concord and Boston, reaching Bristol on return at 12:15 and 7 p. m. In the fall of 1889, the noon train was made permanent and has continued till now. A separate freight train was established in June, 1893.

Beginning with the summer arrangement of 1902, an extra train left Bristol Monday mornings at 6:25 o'clock, and a late train reached Bristol at 8:13 o'clock Saturday evenings, for the accommodation of those wishing to spend the sabbath in this section, and reach Boston on return in season for business on Monday morning.

In 1867, a railroad was projected from Portland, Me., in an air line to Rutland, Vt., and the west. The New Hampshire portion was to be called the "New Hampshire Central." This road was to run through Alton, Meredith, New Hampton, and Bristol, to Danbury. The projectors of the road presented their plans at a meeting of the business men of the town in Bristol, and a committee of the leading citizens of the town, consisting of Hon. L. W. Fling, Hon. S. K. Mason, George T. Crawford,

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<sup>1</sup>The next morning after the survey had been completed, there appeared, where the road was expected to cross South Main street, a sign which read, "Look out for the engine when the bell rings."

Esq., Col. O. F. Fowler, and Albert Blake, went to Portland and met the projectors of the road there, and much public enthusiasm prevailed.

At the annual town meeting Mar. 10, 1868, it was voted to raise \$300 for a preliminary survey from Alton to Danbury. Aug. 5, following, a special town meeting was held, at which the selectmen were authorized to issue the bonds of the town to the amount of five per cent. of the valuation, to the projected Central railroad, in exchange for an equal amount of the stock of the road at par, whenever the road was constructed and put in operation through Bristol village. On this motion the vote stood one hundred and twenty-nine in favor, and forty-two against. At the same time, an article to see if the town would give the right of way as an inducement to bring the track of the Northern road into the village, was passed without action.

Mr. Poor, the chief projector of the road from Portland to Rutland, died before the road materialized, and parties interested in a road from Portland to the west, through the White Mountains, pushed that road to completion, and the project for a road from Portland through Bristol collapsed.

## CHAPTER XIV

### TAVERNS

Where village statesmen talked with looks profound,  
And news much older than their ale went round.  
—*Goldsmith.*

One hundred years ago, there was necessarily much more business on the highways than now, and many more public houses. Not only all the merchandise for the country stores, and the products of the mills, passed over the highways, but many farmers made at least one trip during the year to Boston, to dispose of the surplus products of the farm. All on the roads were obliged to stop where night overtook them, and this made a large number of taverns necessary. Then, too, the right to "tavernize" carried with it the right to keep spirituous liquors for sale at retail, and very many who had one or two spare rooms, opened their houses as taverns, and thus added to the meager income of the farm.

Jonathan Ingalls, who resided just east of Danforth's brook, on the south side of the highway, probably opened the first tavern within the limits of Bristol. It was at his house that many of the early town meetings were held, and that of Mar. 21, 1775, was called at the house of "Jonathan Ingalls, innholder," thus showing that he had a tavern at that early date.

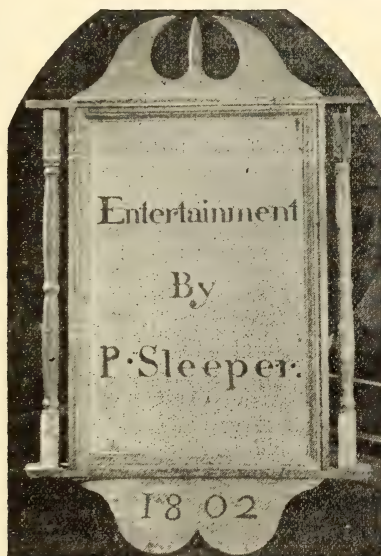
Lieut. Benjamin Emmons opened a tavern as soon as his first frame house was completed, previous to 1790, the same as now stands on the John M. R. Emmons farm. Sherburn Sanborn kept tavern for a time where the present Sanborn residence stands on New Chester mountain; and Cutting Favor kept tavern for twenty years at his home. The entertainment was of the rudest kind. Cutting Favor charged twelve cents for bean porridge and a chance to sleep on the floor.

Col. Peter Sleeper opened the first tavern in Bristol village. After living for a few years in a log cabin, he built a large square two-story house just below where Mrs. S. S. Southard now resides, opposite the junction of High and Cross streets. Here he kept tavern for many years, and did a large business. Rev. Silas Ketchum, when a resident of Bristol, found his old tavern sign, and presented it to the New Hampshire Antiquarian society, and it is now in the rooms of the society at Hopkinton. It is four feet, nine inches high, and three feet wide, and was evidently fastened in some way to the building. A picture of this sign is given on the following page.



Capt. Moses Sleeper kept tavern for twenty-two years in what is now the Green residence, on the north side of Central square, commencing about 1794. The capacity of the house was at one time twice what it is now, a large two-story ell standing on the Kendall lot, on the west, which was torn down and removed about 1850. About 1794, what is now known as the Fisk house, at the northeast corner of Central square, was erected by Ebenezer Kelly, and opened as a tavern. These three taverns were in full operation at the same time, and did a good business when there were not a dozen other houses in the village. The Fisk house was used for many years as a tavern. Peter Hazelton was landlord there in 1817, and Seth Daniels in 1820.

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PETER SLEEPER'S TAVERN SIGN.

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A prominent early tavern within the limits of New Chester was Pingree's inn on the Walter Webster farm in Bridgewater.

Taverns were the news centers of the town. Here the post-rider always stopped, with occasional letters and newspapers, and later the stage-coach left passengers, the mails, and the latest news. Here congregated travelers and teamsters and the residents of the town, when the general news of the day, as well as local happenings, was freely discussed, and the quality of the landlord's grog was tested. One old gentleman said, in speaking of the days of which we write: "When I was a young man, we used to have gay times at Moses Sleeper's. He kept good brandy as well as other liquors, and men were always found

there drinking and wrestling, telling stories, and discussing the news."

About 1800, Peter Sanborn was keeping a tavern in what is now known as the old Whittemore farmhouse at the turn of the road on the Point in Bridgewater. Hearing of the projected Mayhew turnpike, Mr. Sanborn saw that its construction would leave him on a side road, and he therefore erected a tavern at what is still known as the Hoyt stand, on the projected route of the turnpike. A. P. Hoyt was landlord here for many years, and Hoyt's tavern became a popular resort and was known throughout the state. The name still clings to the place, though it has been many years since the business of the turnpike and the tavern departed. The place is now a summer resort. The buildings show the marks of age; but the stately elms, planted in the early days of the tavern, are now at their maturity and have caused the place to be rechristened as Elm Lawn. From beneath their shade is seen one of the finest lake and mountain views in the state.

What might be called the successor of the three taverns named in Bridgewater village was the inn on the east side of South Main street. Just when this inn was erected is not known; but Isaac Dodge was landlord there as early as 1814, for there, on Dec. 3, of that year, as an advertisement reads in the *New Hampshire Patriot*, the proprietors of the Mayhew turnpike were called to meet at their annual meeting. It was a building of about 30 x 50 feet, two stories high, with basement on the north side, and had perhaps twenty rooms. The main building occupied the site of Frank W. Bingham's harness shop. On the south side and west end was a piazza. At the southwest corner stood the sign post, from the arm of which swung the tavern sign. On this sign was painted a crude picture of Washington, from which fact the inn was sometimes called the Washington inn. Extending from the southeast corner was a long two-story building, with an open carriage shed on the ground and a hall in the second story. This hall was reached by stairs from the east end of the piazza: Here the young gathered for dances and singing-schools, and here were held justice trials, political meetings, and other gatherings.

Next to the hall on the south was the road to the woolen-mill, now the pulp-mill of the Mason-Perkins Paper company, near the railroad station. On the south side of this road, at its junction with the turnpike, was the long tavern stable, with entrance from this road. A carriage shed extended the entire length of the stable on the west side. This shed, and the yard between it and the highway, were frequently closely packed at night with freight wagons or sleds, pods and pungs, and vehicles of all description. Isaac Dodge was landlord here in 1820 and perhaps later; but in 1823, Plummer Dodge had succeeded him.

Then came Fry Holt. Mr. Holt was an old stage-driver, and came near being old in years, when, July 11, 1822, he married Hannah, the young sister of Landlord Dodge. He was landlord as late as 1827. A son, born to them here, was taught by his father to use big oaths for the amusement of the crowd. Oliver Blake was one of the early landlords here. Daniel S. Smith was landlord for a couple of years previous to 1834, when he sold to Jeremiah Prescott for \$2,200. It then became known as the Prescott hotel. Mr. Prescott rebuilt the hall, and enlarged and refurnished the main building, at an expense of \$1,500. Business was brisk in those days. There was not only the daily stages in both directions, but also long lines of teams of all kinds. There were frequently seventy-five guests at this hotel over night, and sometimes as many as one hundred.<sup>1</sup> It is true that each guest did not have a room to himself, but he was content to share his bed with a fellow-traveler. Each room had two or more beds, if large enough to contain them; while some travelers slept on the floor, even the floor of the bar-room being utilized for this purpose, and some slept on the hay in the stable. Instead of the gas jet or electricity, there was the tallow dip or whale oil lamp, or even the saucer of grease with the rag in it that kept up a constant sputtering in its efforts to burn. Mr. Prescott continued as landlord here till Dec. 3, 1849, when the tavern and hall were destroyed by fire. They were not rebuilt.

In 1826, Col. John S. Bryant came from Hill, and kept tavern for two or three years in a building that stood on the site of the Bank block.

The first building on the site of Hotel Bristol was a dwelling-house erected by Edmond Brown some years previous to 1800. In 1836, this dwelling, then owned and occupied by Capt. James Minot, was sold to Joseph Malvern, who removed the house and erected a hotel, two stories high with a piazza on the east end and south side. Mr. Malvern kept a public house here a short time, and was succeeded by Luther Robinson, who was keeping tavern here in May, 1837. Dudley Merrill Cass, Ira P. Ballou, and Joseph F. Rollins appear to have been landlords here between this date and 1846. Later, Henry F. Kidder and Sherburn S. Merrill, who afterward became the great railroad magnate of Milwaukee, were landlords, and continued till about 1848. Jonathan L. Prescott was landlord here for a time, and Josiah D. Prescott was landlord for many years previous to his death in 1866. He was succeeded by his son, J. Everett Prescott, who, after a brief stay, retired. The house was then closed for some months and later sold at auction, Otis K. Bucklin being the purchaser.

Mr. Bucklin removed the old buildings and erected the

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<sup>1</sup> Statement of Mrs. Jeremiah Prescott.

present structure, the work being done by Charles Forrest. The main building is four stories and basement, 60 x 45 feet; ell two stories and basement, 42 x 27; hall with shed underneath 50 x 30 feet. The house contains forty-one sleeping rooms. One-half of the old building now stands on the west side of South Main street a half mile south of Central square, and the other half is a tenement house on the east side of South Main street, north of the street or road to Calley & Currier's crutch factory. Mr. Bucklin kept hotel in the new house till October, 1882, it being known as the Bristol house. He sold to George G. Brown, who was landlord here till Aug. 16, 1883, when he in turn sold to Mr. Bucklin and George H. Fowler. Mr. Fowler was landlord till March, 1884, when Mr. Bucklin bought Mr. Fowler's interest and again took charge of the house. Mr. Bucklin was succeeded by F. D. Gilson, who, after serving about two years, sold to Capt. William A. Beckford in August, 1888. Capt. Beckford was succeeded, after a few months, by Frank H. Lovejoy, who after a like service was succeeded by Moses F. Wilbur, in February, 1889. Mr. Wilbur continued as landlord till 1898, when he sold to Charles L. Follansbee. Mr. Wilbur again purchased this property Apr. 10, 1899, and continued as landlord till the spring of 1901, when Charles H. Prescott became its owner, and assumed the duties of landlord. For some years past, this hostelry has been designated as Hotel Bristol.

A public house called Boar's Head was operated a few years in the late sixties at the junction of Willow and Lake streets by William Jewett Sanborn.

In the spring of 1879, George G. Brown remodeled the block at the corner of Central square and Spring street. He raised the block, put a story under it, and added a French roof, making it four stories when completed. Here he opened a hotel in July, and operated it till he purchased Hotel Bristol. When he sold Hotel Bristol to Bucklin & Fowler, he sold this block also, the compensation for both hotels being \$16,000. Mr. Bucklin resided here while Mr. Fowler was landlord of the Bristol House.

For six years past Albion A. Veasey has kept a hotel, called the Riverside House, on the south side of Pleasant street and the east bank of Newfound river. The older part of the buildings was the curry shop of Brown's tannery eighty years ago. Large additions have been made, affording in all about twenty sleeping rooms.



## CHAPTER XV

### TEMPERANCE

Oh, that men should put an enemy in  
Their mouths, to steal away their brains ! that we  
Should, with joy, pleasure, revel and applause,  
Transform ourselves to beasts.

—*Shakespeare.*

For forty or fifty years after the organization of New Chester, the use of ardent spirits was well-nigh universal. The staple drink was West India or New England rum. Everybody kept it on hand the entire year as a beverage, or as a treat for occasional guests. During the haying season, rum was considered indispensable in the field, and was partaken of whenever desired.

The liquors were pure in those days, and contained less alcohol than now. This fact, together with the hard labor of the farmers in the open air, probably prevented some of the evils of the drink habit of the present day. Delirium tremens was unknown, and yet the drink habit was not without its direful results. Then as now, drink begat idleness, deprived a man of his reason, and led its victims to spend their time and money with convivial companions at the taverns or elsewhere. Many a man lost his farm because the fruit of his labor went for strong drink. Intoxicating drink was responsible for the loss of several lives in Bristol. Two men were drowned in Newfound river while intoxicated ; several were drowned in the Pemigewasset from the same cause ; while rum, bought at a tavern in Bristol, caused the death of a bright boy living on the New Hampton side of the Pemigewasset, who was compelled by an intoxicated father to drink.

Among the first settlers in New Chester, cider was almost unknown, but, as apple orchards appeared, vast quantities of it were made, and it became an every-day beverage. In extreme cases, as many as forty barrels have been placed in the cellar for the year's use of a single family. For many years, cider was hardly considered an intoxicating beverage, although its use has always been a great curse to the people. In later years, its use has largely decreased. It is now almost entirely confined to a few cider toppers.

Not only did all the taverns in town keep spirituous liquors for sale, but every store kept them, and vast quantities were

sold.<sup>1</sup> There was no question as to the propriety of this course. When the evils of the traffic were first agitated, even the pulpit were divided on the subject, and those who had the courage of their convictions were denounced for advocating strange doctrines. In 1823, when Solomon Cavis opened his store in Bristol, he had painted on his window shutters, "Rum, Gin, Brandy, Wine, etc." Later, Mr. Cavis attended a lecture in which the evils of the drink habit were portrayed in vivid colors. At the close, the speaker asked all who agreed with him to rise. Mr. Cavis was the first to respond. The next morning, a coating of paint was spread over the lettering on his shutters, and no more intoxicating drinks were sold at his store. Other traders followed his example, till finally the traffic disappeared from the stores.<sup>2</sup>

Gov. Berry told this story: There was one member of the Methodist church, Richard Wentworth, who used to be seen daily at Bartlett's store drinking and treating his friends. One day, Mr. Berry expostulated with him on the sin he was committing. "Well!" said the brother, "If you think it is your duty to talk to me, you do just right, but I shall keep on drinking just the same." He did, and became a confirmed drunkard; he was expelled from the church, but he afterward reformed.

Organized work in the temperance cause in Bristol dates from 1830. Sept. 15, of that year, "some of the inhabitants of Bristol, beholding with pain and grief the deadly effects and ravages of intemperance, met agreeable to notice . . . at the Methodist Episcopal meeting-house and organized themselves into a society called The Bristol Temperance Society." Rev. J. B. H. Norris was chosen president; Dr. Samuel Smith, vice-president; Col. N. S. Berry, William L. Chase, and Jacob N. Darling, committee. The declaration of principles was embodied in these words:

The members of this society, believing that the use of intoxicating liquors is, for persons in health, not only unnecessary, but even hurtful, and that the practice is the cause of forming intemperate appetites and habits, and that while it is continued the evils of intemperance can never be prevented, do, therefore, agree that we will abstain from the use of distilled spirits except as a medicine in case of bodily infirmity; that we will not allow the use of them in our families nor provide them for the entertainment of our friends or for persons in our employment and that in all suitable ways we will discountenance the use of them in the community.

<sup>1</sup> The author once heard Levi Bartlett tell this story: "On one occasion, when I was a boy, my father had been without rum in his store for a week or more, and jugs were left to be filled. When a hogshead of rum had been received, I sat down at the faucet and did not rise till I had drawn the whole out at retail."

<sup>2</sup> Gov. N. S. Berry used to say that sixty hogheads of rum were sold at Bartlett's store in one year.

Any one subscribing to the constitution became a member, and during the next four years over three hundred affixed their names. This, like all subsequent movements along this line, swept in many who had not sufficient moral stamina to keep their good resolutions, and opposite some names were written the words "expelled," or "violated his oath," while in one case the record reads "drowned himself while drunk."

The work of this society evidently resulted in improving public sentiment concerning the evils of intemperance. Lectures were given and conventions held. A Grafton County convention was held at Plymouth Sept. 27, 1836. The delegates from the Bristol society were Rev. John Winter, Dr. Jacob S. Eaton, Col. O. F. Fowler, Col. N. S. Berry, Rev. Matthew Newhall, S. H. Stevens, Esq., Col. John S. Bryant, Joseph Moore, Samuel T. W. Sleeper, Esq., and Richard H. Sawyer. After a few years of prosperity and usefulness, this society ceased to exist.

In 1842, the Washingtonian movement reached Bristol, and a total abstinence society was organized in the Congregational church Feb. 22, of that year. This society was called the Bristol Washingtonian society, and its members subscribed to the following

#### PLEDGE

We agree to abstain from all intoxicating liquors as a drink and promise that we will not manufacture them or traffic in them; that we will not furnish them as a drink to friends or to persons in our employment; and that in all suitable ways we will endeavor to promote the total abstinence from them as a beverage, as, in our opinion, the only sure way to reclaim the fallen; to remove temptation, and to hand down the blessing of temperance to generations to come.

This pledge was signed by one hundred and fifteen persons, and more names were added later. The first officers of the society were: President, Samuel H. Stevens; vice-president, Moody C. Sawyer; secretary, Josiah Minot; executive committee, Jacob S. Eaton, William L. Chase, and S. S. Worthing.

The Washingtonian society worked along the same lines as did its predecessor, striving to cultivate public sentiment. All its meetings were public, and at each the subject of intemperance was discussed, sometimes with a formal subject with speakers assigned on both sides, and frequently with lectures by clergymen and others. Among the participants were nearly all the strong men of the town, including Dr. J. S. Eaton, Dr. M. C. Sawyer, Josiah Minot, Esq., Samuel H. Stevens, Esq., Richard H. Sawyer, William L. Chase, Rev. Reuben Dearborn, Rev. H. H. Hartwell, S. S. Worthing, Robert Smith, Esq., Jacob N. Darling, Warren White, Levi Bartlett, William F. Lewis, Rev. Daniel O. Morton, Daniel S. Smith, Ichabod C.

Bartlett, Reuben C. Bean, Solomon Cavis, Col. Oscar F. Fowler, N. C. Greenough, Henry Wells, Rev. Walter Sleeper, Dea. William Green, and Frederick Bartlett, Esq. The subject of discussion Feb. 22, 1848, was, "Resolved, That rumsellers should be held legally responsible for the damage their traffic brings upon society." This was discussed by Frederick Bartlett, Jeremiah Johnson, and Dr. M. C. Hoyt, on the affirmative, and by Dr. Eaton, Dea. Green, and Rev. Caleb S. Beede, on the negative. Other speakers followed, including Rev. L. C. McCurdy, and and N. B. Bryant, Esq.

In May, 1843, a paper was passed through the community to receive the signatures of those favoring the enforcement of the law, and two hundred and fifty signatures were obtained. Francis Kidder, Dr. Eaton, Solomon Cavis, James Minot, and Warren White were elected a committee to take such measures as they thought best to suppress the traffic in Bristol.

The following is a record made of one meeting :

Dr. Eaton, O. F. Fowler, N. B. Bryant, Dr. Hoyt, and many others made remarks and so pointed that every one present could not help knowing that "a man in the wall" should be made to know what estimation the people of this place hold of him, and the following resolution was made :

*Resolved*, That the members of a temperance society assembled on the 22nd of February, 1851, in Bristol, look upon the business and place of William Chase<sup>1</sup> as a public nuisance deserving and receiving the condemnation of the honest citizens of this place.

The resolution was adopted ; and N. B. Bryant, Dr. Eaton and J. T. Kendall were chosen a committee to investigate the "hole in the wall"<sup>2</sup> and report at the next meeting.

The women were early active workers in the temperance cause in Bristol. In March, 1842, the "Ladies' Appeal" was circulated through the community, and Oct. 22, 1843, "Miss Parker" gave a lecture that was attended by a large audience. "This lecture," says the record, "was one of the most powerful ever delivered in our hall." In 1848, a Woman's Union was organized.

Oct. 4, 1848, a division of the Sons of Temperance, a secret organization, was formed in Bristol. It had a vigorous existence that lasted several years and accomplished much good. Its meetings were held in a hall in the attic of White's block. The *Temperance Banner* had one hundred and twenty subscribers in town. In 1866, this organization was succeeded by the Good Templars, who continued the work. About 1878, came the Reform Club, which was more of a citizen's movement.

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<sup>1</sup>This name should not be mistaken for that of William L. Chase.

<sup>2</sup>This "hole in the wall" was a low saloon kept by William Chase in the basement of a building that stood near the west side drug store. The entrance was by stairs on north side.



It held its meetings in public and aroused much public zeal. Vast numbers of drinking men were influenced by the enthusiasm of the hour to take the pledge. At one meeting, held at the town hall, when speakers from abroad were present, as many as fifty habitual drinkers affixed their names to the pledge. This, like all other movements, served its time and accomplished good, though most of the habitual drinkers drifted back to their old habits.

The Reform Club movement was succeeded by the Christian Temperance Union which was continued for several years. One Sunday evening in each month, union temperance services were held in the town hall at which addresses were given by the resident clergymen and others. Like the work of all its predecessors, the work of the union was along the line of moral suasion, serving to keep the liquor traffic under the ban of public condemnation and helping to deter the young from contracting the drink habit. The enforcement of the law, which has been effected from time to time, has served to check the traffic and thus accomplish some good; but this step has been the exception rather than the rule.

The town early took a stand against licensing the sale of intoxicating drinks. In 1843, the vote was fifty-one for license and one hundred and forty-five against. In 1847, and for many years later, there was a vote each year to instruct the selectmen to prosecute all violations of the liquor law, and each year the selectmen licensed some one to sell spirituous liquors for medicinal, mechanical, and chemical purposes, and for the commemoration of the Lord's Supper. In 1848, on the question, "Is it expedient that a law be enacted by the General Court prohibiting the sale of wines and other spirituous liquors except for chemical, medicinal and mechanical purposes?" the vote stood, affirmative, one hundred and forty-two; negative, thirty-two.

At the annual town meeting in 1871, Rev. Silas Ketchum presented the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

*Whereas*, We, the citizens of Bristol, have had ample opportunity to know that the promiscuous and illegal sale of intoxicating liquors is always detrimental to the peace, good order and moral reputation of our town; and

*Whereas*, We are anxious that our citizens should be prevented and our young men restrained from intemperance and its destructive consequences; therefore,

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion and moral sentiment of this town expressed in a kind and courteous manner, that every citizen should abstain from the illegal sale of intoxicating liquors under any and all circumstances, after the town has provided for the legal sale thereof.

It was also voted that the enforcement of the liquor law be left

with the selectmen, and that the selectmen appoint one or more liquor agents, if it cost \$1,000.

In 1873, the town instructed its representatives to use their influence for the passage of a law prohibiting the sale of ale, beer, and cider.

At the annual meeting in March, 1889, the voters of the town were to vote for or against seven amendments proposed by the constitutional convention of January, 1889, one of which prohibited the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors. At this meeting, a delegation of ladies, consisting of Mrs. G. W. Patterson, Mrs. W. A. Nealy, Mrs. W. A. Berry, Mrs. R. W. Musgrove, Mrs. G. H. White, and Mrs. A. M. Draper, asked to be admitted to the hall and present a petition. They were admitted, and they occupied a place on the platform, when Mrs. Patterson read the following petition :

To the voters of Bristol :

We, the undersigned, three hundred and five women of Bristol, to whom the welfare of our homes is dear, and whose interests are bound up in them, believing strong drink to be the direct enemy of the home in New Hampshire, bringing poverty, wretchedness, and crime into it, do beseech you, who hold the power of franchise, to protect our homes by voting "yes" on the great temperance question this day presented to you.

This movement of the ladies did not have the desired effect, sixty-six voting in the affirmative, and one hundred and fifty-five in the negative. The vote in Bristol was a representative one, the amendment not being approved by the voters of the state.

During the first quarter of the nineteenth century, the freedom with which liquors were sold and used caused Bristol to be called "Sodom" and "Hell's Half Acre." Then came a change in the character of the place. Public sentiment drove the traffic into obscurity, stripped it of its respectability, and greatly lessened the amount used. For fifty years, there has not been an open bar in the place, and although the blighting curse of strong drink has been seen all the time, but few, if any, towns in the state have suffered less than Bristol, and few to-day occupy a more advanced position on the question of temperance.

## CHAPTER XVI

### THE TOWN'S POOR

What is the use of heapin' on me a pauper's shame?  
Am I lazy or crazy? am I blind or lame?

—*Carleton.*

In the support of the poor, the same customs prevailed in New Chester and Bridgewater as in other towns of the state during the same period. There may have been, formerly, the same kindly sympathy for those dependent upon the town for support, and the same generous treatment, according to the means of the people, as now; but some of the customs of the past seem harsh and unfeeling, compared with more modern usage. It should be remembered, however, that during the first fifty years after the settlement of New Chester the people were extremely poor. Very many of the settlers brought with them no means except a few household goods, and such, in case of misfortune or indolence, were liable to become public burdens. This state of affairs existed in all the new settlements of the state, and was responsible for the passage of the law allowing the selectmen to prevent any person gaining a legal residence, by a process called "warning out of town," in which the selectmen issued a warrant commanding the person named to leave town forthwith, which warrant was placed in the hands of a constable, who served it. In some towns it was the custom to serve this notice upon all new comers, lest, by chance, some might become public charges. Even well-to-do people were not exempt from this strange greeting—a legal warning to leave town. The custom of serving this notice upon all was never in vogue in New Chester or Bridgewater.

The first authentic record of this "warning out of town" process being served in New Chester was on "Col." Tom Fuller, soon after he came to town, in 1780. "Col." Tom had made an honorable record in the Revolutionary war, serving several years as a private; but when he came here, he was poor and was, therefore, warned out of town. He continued to reside here, however, until 1819, when he died, without having once called on the town for aid. In 1853, the town erected a marble tablet to mark his last resting-place.

Not only was it the custom to warn all the poor who had not gained a residence, to depart from the town, but sometimes the poor were carried bodily beyond the limits of the town and

left either in the town where they were supposed to belong, or somewhere else. In 1787, New Chester paid Thomas Rowell twenty shillings for carrying a poor family to Andover; and, in 1790, Bridgewater voted to allow Chase Fuller three shillings for carrying Dorothy Clifford from the town.

Among the charges of Carr Huse, as one of the selectmen in 1792, was an item for traveling to the western part of the town "to see if Molly Clark had been legally warned out of town." The case of this poor woman was peculiarly sad. She had come from Hampstead, but whether as a widow or the wife of a poor settler, is not known. She may have been a relative of John Clark, or the widow of John Clark, Jr., two Revolutionary soldiers from New Chester, both of whom came from Hampstead. We simply know that she and her two children had become paupers. The warrant for a town meeting held Aug. 7, 1793, included the following articles:

2d To see What Method the Town will take with Molly Clark and her two Children, which have been Sent to the Town of Hampstead by a Warrant for Support which they Refuse to do.

3d to See what Sum of Money the Town will Vote to Raise this year to Defray town Charges as there is likely to be a Dispute with the town of Hampstead and the town of New Chester of which town shall Support the said Molly Clark

At this town meeting it was voted to raise nine pounds to meet the current expenses of the town the ensuing year, but there was evidently a feeling that the town might be legally holden for the support of Molly Clark, as is seen by the following action of the town:

A vote was put to see if the town of New Chester Woould Bring Molly Clark back from Hampstead to New Chester and support her if she stood in need and Voted not to Bring her back.

Voted to pay all the costs that should arise against New Chester if Hampstead should get the case and should beat New Chester on the account of Molly Clark.

Upon investigation, it probably appeared that this family had a legal residence in New Chester, as the selectmen paid the board of one of the children, Jonathan, while in Hampstead, and made a contract with Jacob Rowell, of New Chester, to take this boy as an apprentice. The agreement was ratified by the town at a meeting held Nov. 3, 1794, in the following vote:

Voted to give Jacob Rowell thirty Dollars to Take Jonathan Clark, son of Molly Clark, a poor Boy, which the Town of New Chester is Charged with the maintainance of which is to be bound to the Said Rowell and the said Rowell is to give Said Boy a Chance to learn the Blacksmith's Trade if he is Capable of Learning it & he is to give Sd Boy two suits of Clothes when he arrives at the age of twenty one years and



to learn him to Read write & Cypher Sufficient to keep a Tradesman Book if Capable of learning.

This boy worked for his master fourteen years or more, after which we learn of him as a runaway, and the following advertisement appeared in the *New Hampshire Patriot* :

ONE DOLLAR REWARD.

Run away from the subscriber, an apprentice boy by the name of Jonathan Clark, aged 18. He had on when he went away a dark colored spencer and pantaloons—of a light complexion,—about 5 feet, 2 inch high. Whoever will return the above named boy shall receive the above reward. This is to forbid all persons harboring him or trusting him on my account.

Jacob Rowell.

New Chester, May 19, 1809.

Molly Clark was brought back to New Chester, but whether by the officers of this town or by those of Hampstead does not appear. The atmosphere of the town, however, was evidently uncongenial, and she moved across the line into Bridgewater. But this action did not end the poor woman's troubles. The authorities of Bridgewater were quite as relentless as were those of New Chester, and she was carried bodily beyond the limits of the town. At the next town meeting, it was "Voted to allow Samuel Heath ten shillings on his father's account for carrying Molly Clark out of town and Lieut. Benjamin Emmons & Chase Fuller two shillings each," for assisting. As a redeeming feature in this dark picture, we find the following vote on the Bridgewater records: "Voted, to allow Moses Webster \$4.50 for keeping and nursing a woman and child two weeks."

The case of Molly Clark was probably the last where extreme measures were taken to rid the town of those for whose support it supposed itself not legally holden. Soon afterwards commenced the custom, which prevails to-day, of promptly assisting the poor as they might need, and of leaving for subsequent decision the question as to which town or county was legally liable for their support.

It was the custom here, as elsewhere, to set up the poor at auction at the annual town meeting, their support being struck off to those who would keep them for the smallest amount or would pay the most for their services. The records of a town meeting in New Chester, March 11, 1806, tell us that "Lydia Colby, a poor girl supported by the town, was set up and struck off to Thomas Wells, Jr., for ten dollars for one year, he to find her victuals, drink, and lodgings, and the town to find her in clothes." The vote does not tell us which party paid the ten dollars, but it would seem that Thomas Wells, Jr., paid it, from the fact that for a long term of years this "poor girl" was bid

off in open town meeting and brought the town from \$4 to \$12.50 per year. One year, she was set up and struck off four times, once for each quarter. In 1813, "Elizabeth Colby, a poor girl, was struck off to Philip Wells, he to have \$20 and the town to pay the doctor's bills." "Lieut. Isaac Colby and wife were struck off at \$1.80 per week to Samuel Underhill, he to have the woman's labor."

In 1817, the support of Susanna Colby and Jeremiah Quimby, poor children, was bid off. In the former case the town was to pay ten cents per week, and in the latter case it received thirty-six cents per week for the boy's labor. Both children were to receive six weeks of schooling during the year, and the town reserved the privilege of terminating the contract at any time if an opportunity presented itself to bind the children out during their minority. The records are so worded that one can almost see these poor people put upon the auction block in open town meeting and there struck off. The requirement of their presence in town meeting was not, however, a part of the indignity they suffered.

After the incorporation of Bristol, the voters of the town followed the custom then in vogue of putting up at auction in open town meeting the support of its poor. This continued till the town purchased a farm for a place to care for all its paupers. Increasing sympathy was constantly shown for the unfortunate poor, and soon after the new town came into existence the following vote, the first on record in Bristol regarding the poor, was passed: "That the selectmen see that the poor be well and comfortably clothed when they go to their new places." March 10, 1829, it was "Voted that the selectmen get at the expense of the town a new suit of clothes suitable to wear to meeting, for Samuel Truel and Elijah Truel. Samuel Truel was then set up and struck off to Levi Nelson for \$6.50, he being the highest bidder." Three years later it was voted that Levi Nelson keep the great coat, hat, and boots that he furnished for Elijah Truel and have reasonable pay for the rest of the clothing. In 1826, it was "Voted that when Josiah Fuller will put his two sons under the care of the selectmen they may render him such assistance as they may think proper for the support of the residue of his family." Three years later it was voted "that Josiah Fuller have \$25 for supporting his daughter provided he will put out his son, Clark Fuller."

In 1832, the subject of a town farm was discussed. Abraham Dolloff, Reuben Emmons, and Levi Nelson were elected a committee to investigate the subject and report at the next meeting.

In 1836, all the poor of the town were struck off to "Blake Fowler for \$270, not including Doctor's bills."

In 1837, a second committee, consisting of Samuel T. W.

Sleeper, Levi Nelson, and Joseph Moore, was elected to examine into the advantages of a town farm. The following year, the committee reported, but the town did not act till 1839, when it voted to purchase a farm, authorizing the selectmen "to take a part of the school fund to pay for it, if needed, or borrow the money." The meeting also voted to support the poor on the farm. The farm purchased was that occupied for many years later by Henry C. Homans, near Bristol Peak.

The poor-farm was not a success. It was difficult to obtain the right man to manage it, and the annual deficiency was greater than the town could afford. In 1845, the town voted to sell, and the farm was disposed of soon afterward. But the town did not return to the old method of disposing of the poor; it left the care of the poor to the selectmen. In 1851, it was voted that the selectmen be instructed to procure comfortable places for the poor "though it cost \$5 or \$10 more," and that the poor be supported in town. Since this vote, the subject of the town's poor has hardly been alluded to in town meeting. The selectmen have had the entire charge of the poor and the spirit shown in the last vote of instruction has since animated nearly or quite all the town fathers. Consequently, the unfortunate poor have been aided in their homes or given as comfortable homes as circumstances would permit.

In 1851, the subject of a county farm came up for consideration by the town. The vote was only nineteen in favor and sixty-seven against, the objections to the proposed farm being those of increased expense to the county and the inhumanity of taking the poor from the scenes of their old homes and herding them together under one roof. The farm was established, however, at Haverhill, and Bristol was relieved of the care of those who had gained a residence previous to a certain date. Since then, town settlements have been abolished from time to time, so that the larger part of the poor have been, and are now, supported by the county.

In 1867, on the question "Is it expedient to abolish pauper settlements in town and throw the entire support of paupers upon counties?" the vote was, yes, twenty-five; no, ninety-one.

In justification of the county farm and the right of the county commissioners to take any county pauper from his or her home, it may be said that the greater part of the inmates of the county farm are foreigners or imbeciles who have no home ties. Most of the worthy, intelligent poor are aided at their own homes or supported in the community where they naturally desire to remain. The tax for the support of the poor, both town and county, has been paid willingly by all classes of the people.

## CHAPTER XVII

### MILITARY HISTORY—NEW CHESTER IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

The land is holy where they fought,  
And holy where they fell;  
For by their blood that land was bought,  
The land they loved so well.  
Then glory to that valiant band,  
The honored saviors of the land!

—*MacLellan.*

New Hampshire was organized into a separate province in January, 1680. The first General Assembly met on the 16th of March, following, and at once enacted laws organizing the militia of the state—one company of foot in each of the towns of Portsmouth, Dover, Exeter, and Hampton, one company of artillery, and one of horse. Such were the exigencies of the times that an effective militia was of vital importance to the existence of the state.

The close of the Seven Years' war, ending with the capitulation of Montreal, in 1760, found the militia of the state organized into one regiment of cavalry and nine of infantry.

This arrangement continued for some years; but, in 1773, when New Chester was organized, there were twelve regiments in the state. One of these embraced the towns of the southern part of Grafton county, and was commanded by Col. John Fenton, of Plymouth. Col. Fenton had seen service as a captain in the British army, and, when trouble arose between England and her colonies, he proved a tory. He went to Portsmouth, where he was incarcerated in jail, but was soon after allowed to enter the lines of the British in Boston, after taking an oath not to take up arms against the colonies.

Immediately after the Declaration of Independence, the militia of the state was radically modified. Two classes of soldiers were provided for in every town—a training band and an alarm list. The training band included all able-bodied men from sixteen to fifty years of age, with certain exemptions. The alarm list included all from sixteen to sixty-five not included in the training bands. These were liable to be called out in an emergency. They were mustered by their captains, and their arms were examined twice each year. The training bands or companies were organized into regiments. Each officer and each private soldier was to be constantly provided with "a good fire-



arm, a good ramrod, a worm, priming-wire and brush, a bayonet fitted to his gun, a scabbard and belt therefor, a cutting sword or tomahawk or hatchet, a pouch containing a cartridge-box that will hold fifteen rounds of cartridges at least, a hundred buck-shot, a jack-knife and tow for wadding, six flints, one pound of powder, forty leaden balls fitted to his gun, a knapsack and blanket, a canteen or wooden bottle sufficient to hold one quart." Each town was to keep deposited in a safe place ready for instant use a specified number of spades or shovels, axes and picks. Each company was to muster eight times a year, including the regimental muster.

During the war, when men were needed for the army, the Assembly apportioned the number among the several regiments. If volunteers were not sufficient to fill the quotas, the colonels apportioned the men needed among the several companies, whereupon the company commanders paraded the companies and made drafts.

In 1774, there were about forty-four families in the territory now embraced in Hill, Bridgewater, and Bristol. Nearly all of these were living on the west bank of the Pemigewasset river, between the Plymouth line and Franklin, a distance of nineteen miles. These pioneers were not, however, so remote in the wilderness that they were not thoroughly informed concerning the storm that was rising between the colonies and the mother country. On the 23rd day of July, 1774, Carr Huse and Peter Sleeper, the assessors of the town, called a meeting of "all the Free holders and Inhabitants of the Town of New Chester to meet at the house of Jonathan Ingalls in N. Chester on tuesday the Twenty Sixth day of July at one of the Clock in the afternoon, Firstly to Choose a Moderator To Regulate Said Meeting. Secondly when mett to act upon the Correspondence paper as they shall Think Proper. Thirdly to See who will sign the Covenant and who will not and also to act upon any other things that are thought proper or Necessary."

This meeting was held at the time and place specified, and adjourned without action till September 20, following. Unfortunately, there are extant no records of the proceedings of this adjourned meeting, and no tradition has come to us as to who or how many signed the covenant. This thing, however, is apparent all through the war, that no voice was raised in New Chester against any measure designed to aid those in the field or to sustain the colonial cause.

May 2, 1775, a meeting was held at the house of Jonathan Ingalls, "firstly to Choose a Moderator to Govern Sd meeting Secondly to See what the Inhabitants will Doe Concerning a Stock of Ammunition & Thirdly to See if the town will enlist any men for to Stand Ready at a minutes warning & fourthly to see if the town will raise money to buy a Stock of provisions for

to keep as a town stock as occasion may call for and also to act upon any other thing that Shall Be thought proper or necessary." At this meeting Abner Fellows was chosen moderator, and it was "Voted that there should be 24 four Dollars & an half raised for to Buy a town Stock of ammunition. Voted that there should be minute men enlisted for to Stand at a minutes warning in the town of New Chester."

That the minute men were enlisted in accordance with this vote, is probable; but that the ammunition was secured, there is reason to doubt. Ammunition was difficult to obtain, and it may have been impossible for even the selectmen, with money raised for the purpose, to find any in the market that could be purchased. That this was the case, seems more than probable, for on the ninth day of September, following, the selectmen state in a return made by them that there was not at that time more than two or three pounds of powder in town, and on the 28th of June, 1776, the following petition was sent to the honorable council and house of representatives:

New Chester, June ye 29th, 1776.

To the Honorable Colony Committee

We the Subscribers being a Majority of the Selectmen and Committee of Safety for the township of New Chester being willing to Defend ourselves and fellow Country men to the Utmost of our Power—But finding our Selves destitute in a Gret Measure of Arms and Amunition Humbly beg You would use your Interest to procure About 56 lbs of Powder and 112 lbs of Lead & about 150 Flints and Fifteen guns Which We bind our Selves to the Honest payment of as Witness our hands.

Abner Fellows	}	For Committee
Joshua Tolford		
Thos Crawford		
Jonathan Ingalls		
Cutting Favor		
Ebenezer Ingalls	}	Selectmen for New Chester.
Benjamin Emmons		
Carr Huse		

On the second day of July, following, the house of representatives voted to distribute a small amount of powder to those towns most needy, and, of this, thirty pounds were apportioned to New Chester. Abner Fellows made a trip to Exeter to procure this powder, and the town paid him one pound, thirteen shillings, two pence, and three farthings for his "journey and expenses."

The men of this township were anxious to bear their part of the public burdens in furnishing men for any military organization that might be raised in this part of the state to aid the colonial cause. This is plainly shown in the following remonstrance, addressed to the Committee of Safety, Exeter:

Gentlemen—

Whereas it has been Represented to us by Mr Abel Webster member

of the Colony Congress for the Town of Plymouth in the County of Grafton, That your Honours propos'd & ordered one Company of Foot to be Raised in the County of Grafton, for the Defence of the Country one half of said Company to be raised in the Towns Situate on Conecticut River & the other half on the Towns Situate on the Pemegiwassitte River, and that the Order for raising said Company was delivered to Israel Morey Esqr of Orford to be by him communicated to said Webster & by him to be proportioned upon each River, Yet Nevertheless as we Understand the said Israel Morey Esqr keeps said orders to himself or from this part of the County in order to raise the whole of said Company on Connecticut River as he has had no connection or advice with said Webster or any other person in this part of the County concerning the same We therefore the agents of the several Towns Hereafter Mentioned beg leave to Remonstrate to Your Honors against the proceedings of said Esqr Morey, conceiving that by his thus proceeding he has not only thwarted the order and advice of Congress or said Committee of Safety but also put this part of the County under a very uneaquel footing with the other part in bearing the publick charge in not having the priviledge in raising our proportion of Men, We therefore desire your Honours would Interpose in said affair by pointing out to said Esqr Morey the Path of Justice and Generosity by ordering him to Give up the orders to this part of the County to raise half of said Company or otherwise as Your Honors think proper

Plymouth 23d June 1775

For Plymouth Saml Emerson  
 Rumney Jonathan hall  
 For New Holderness Saml Sheperd  
 For N. Chester Carr Huse  
 Thornton Ezekiel Eliot  
 Cockersmouth Ebenezer Kendall  
 For Alexandrae Jonathan Cauleys  
 Campton Gershom Burbanks

This remonstrance was received by the committee, and its consideration deferred till July 1; but there is no record to show that it ever came up for action.

Town meetings were frequent during the war, and only six weeks after the last mentioned another was held at Jonathan Ingalls's (June 21, 1775). Ensign Peter Sleeper was chosen moderator. "Carr Huse was Chosen a Committee Man for to go to New Plymouth To assist in Chosing field officers" for the Twelfth Regiment. The following were chosen a Committee of Safety and Inspection: Carr Huse, Lieut. Robert Forsaith, Henry Wells, Thomas Crawford, Jr., Ebenezer Ingalls, Ensign Peter Sleeper, and Andrew Craige, with the first named as chairman.

The first enlistments from New Chester were as early as June, 1775. At this date, Nathaniel Bartlett, John Crawford, and Joseph Davis were in the service. The latter appears on the roll of Capt. Henry Dearborn's company as from Plymouth; but the selectmen of New Chester make oath that he was from New Chester in claiming an abatement of poll-taxes by reason of his being in the service. This man served in Benedict Arnold's expedition to Canada in the fall of 1775.

On the 23rd of June, 1775, David Hobart, David Webster, and Samuel Shepard sent the following communication to the Committee of Safety at Exeter:

To the Committee of Safety appointed by the Colony of new Hampshire or the Congress of said Colony—Gentlemen whereas we are Informed the Honorable Congress appointed that there should be a Company of Men Raised in this County for the Safety of the Frontier Towns and as part of said Company is to be Raised out of this Regiment we would Recommend Capt. Matthew Thornton as a man Shutable we Think to Inlist said Company and a man that we Can Depend upon in the graitest Troble or Destress which if your Honours Thought proper to give him orders for so Dowing we Think that he Could Raise a Company in a Short Time and it would give Sattysfaction to the new Towns heare and oblide your Humble Serts.

Plymouth June 23 1775

David Hobert  
David Webster  
Saml Sheperd

On receipt of this communication, the Committee of Safety, at Exeter, authorized Capt. Thornton<sup>1</sup> to raise a company from this section, and he enlisted forty-three men. Among them were the following from New Chester: "Thomas Crawford, farmer, age, 26, enlisted July 11, 1775; Jonathan Crawford, farmer, age, 28, enlisted July 11, 1775; Zebediah Richardson, farmer, age, 23, enlisted July 11, 1775."

The men enlisted by Capt. Thornton were merged with twenty others apparently enlisted by James Osgood, of Conway. James Osgood became captain; Matthew Thornton, first lieutenant; Jotham Cummings, of Plymouth, second lieutenant; and Thomas Crawford, of New Chester, one of the sergeants. This company of sixty-three men became known as Capt. Osgood's Company of Rangers. They joined the Northern Continental army and were discharged the last of December, following.

On the ninth of September, 1775, Carr Huse and Robert Forsaith, selectmen, made the following return of the town:

Males under 16 . . . . .	66
Males 16 to 50 not in the army . . . . .	32
Males above 50 . . . . .	5
Males in the army . . . . .	5
All females . . . . .	88
Slaves . . . . .	none—196
Number of firearms fit to use within the town . . . . .	26
Number wanting . . . . .	11
All the powder in town not more than two or three pounds.	

In November, 1775, Peter Wells went to Winter Hill, Mass., and there enlisted for one year in Capt. Daniel Moore's

<sup>1</sup>Two years later Capt. Thornton was arrested for toryism. This was Matthew Thornton of Thornton, and not Matthew Thornton who was one of the proprietors of New Chester.



company, of the First Regiment. He served in this company till there was a call for men to enlist for three years, when he again enlisted, this time for three years in Capt. Amos Morrill's company of the same regiment, as will be seen farther on.

At a meeting held at the house of Jonathan Ingalls, Mar. 1, 1776, the following were elected as the Committee of Safety for the year ensuing: Joshua Tolford, Thomas Crawford, Jr., Capt. Cutting Favor, Abner Fellows, and Jonathan Ingalls.

John Clark, Jr., enlisted in 1776, in the company of Capt. John Calfe, of Hampstead, in Col. Pierce Long's Regiment as John Clark, without the "junior," and was credited to Hampstead. For proof that this man was the same as John Clark, Jr., of New Chester, the following affidavit of his father, presented to the Committee of Safety, at Exeter, is here givern:

I John Clark of New Chester in the County of Grafton and State of New Hampshire Yeoman, Testifieth & saith—that my son John Clark Junr of New Chester aforesaid after he had lived in New Chester on or about one year did in the year 1776 Inlist himself to serve as a Soldier for one year at Portsmouth under Capt. John Calf of Hampstead. That in the year 1777 before said year for which he Inlisted was expired the Corps he belonged to being under the Command of Col. Long was ordered to march for Ticonderoga, with which he marched. That his said son in said year 1777 upon his said march at No four his said year being about expired that he had engaged for Inlisted himself into the Continental Service for three years under an officer named Willard still considering himself a New Chester man. That after he had served towards two years in said service he being then in the Army Inlisted himself during the War & and soon after Returned home to New Chester aforesaid (also considering himself a New Chester man as aforesaid) where he was with me about three months and in May 1779 he being then (the said John Clark Junr) at home in New Chester aforesaid gave me an order to draw from Capt Favor the Bounty given by the said New Chester to such Soldiers which was six pounds in silver money which order the selectmen of New Chester has already paid & stand ready to pay any further sum or sums that the said town shall make up to such soldiers in General—and further saith not

September 10th 1781

John Clark

Grafton ss: Plymouth September 10th 1781 Then the above Named John Clark personally appearing made solemn oath to the truth of the above Deposition by him subscribed before me

Samuel Emerson Just Peace

John Clark, Jr., was at Newcastle Dec. 7, 1776, where he was paid for two months' time, forty shillings per month; blanket money, twelve shillings; wages and travel, five pounds, eighteen shillings, eight pence; leaving a balance due him of three pounds, eighteen shillings, eight pence. He was at Portsmouth Jan. 14, 1777, where he was paid two pounds for two months' advance pay. He marched with his company for

Ticonderoga and, on reaching Charlestown, as his time of service had nearly expired, he felt at liberty to enlist in another company for three years. That this was not considered entirely regular, even for those times, is seen from the fact that his old company commander reported him as "absent" and as having left Mar. 17. His age was stated to be at that time nineteen years. This man next appears in Capt. Farwell's company, serving a three years' enlistment, and as from Hampstead, but he was returned and claimed by the selectmen of New Chester as being on its quota as late as 1782.

Robert Crawford and John Craige were on the roll of Capt. Abbott's company in Gen. Stark's regiment as early as February, 1776, for, in April of this year, they were paid for the months of February and March. They were at Fort George in November, 1776.

In answer to a requisition from Gen. Washington, the legislature of New Hampshire voted, Dec. 4, 1776, to draft five hundred men from the several regiments of the state and send them at once to take the places of men at Fort George and Ticonderoga whose terms of service would expire the last day of December, and thus prevent those posts from falling into the hands of the enemy. The regiment thus formed was commanded by Col. David Gilman, of Pembroke. Capt. William Walker commanded one company, in which were eighteen men from David Hobart's regiment of militia, including the following from New Chester, who had enlisted December 16: Sergt. Peter Sleeper, Jonathan Crawford, Josiah Fellows.

These men were paid one month's advance pay—three pounds; and two pounds, fifteen shillings, for three hundred and thirty miles' travel. They were enlisted to serve till March 1, unless sooner discharged. It seems almost past belief that men should have been enlisted for so short a time for such an important service, requiring so many miles of travel; but such was probably the exigency of the times that nothing better could be done.

At a meeting held Mar. 26, 1777, Lieut. Robert Forsaith, John Mitchell, Jeremiah Quimby, Peter Sleeper, and Reuben Wells were elected a Committee of Safety.

There were seventeen organized regiments of militia in the state in 1776. New Chester was in the Twelfth Regiment, commanded by Col. David Hobart of Plymouth. This regiment, in March, 1777, contained an enrolment of three hundred and seventy-eight men, distributed among the towns composing the regiment as follows: Plymouth, ninety-one; Rumney, fifty-two; Holderness, thirty-six; Campton, forty-five; Thornton, fifty-four; Cockermouth, twenty-eight; New Chester, thirty-eight; Alexandria, thirty-four. The enrolment age was from sixteen to fifty years.

In the spring of 1777, nine men enlisted from New Chester for three years or the war. They were Joshua Wilson<sup>1</sup> in Capt. Blodgett's company, Benjamin McCalister in Capt. Amos Morrill's company, Robert Crawford in Capt. Amos Morrill's company, Corp. Peter Wells in Capt. Amos Morrill's company, Moses Worthen in Capt. Benj. Stone's company, John Craige, all for New Chester; John Crawford and James Craige, for Concord; Sterling Heath, in Capt. Stone's company. These facts are given in a return made by Col. David Hobart, of Plymouth, Mar. 6, 1779, of the number of men enlisted from his regiment of militia in answer to a call for forty-seven men made just previous to their enlistment; but it will be observed that he made the return two years after the date of their enlistment and probably from memory, for he adds that this return is "as right as can be come at." He does not inform us what disposition was made of John Craige, James Craige, and John Crawford; but, from a return made by Capt. Livermore of Col. Scammel's regiment, it appears that they served in his company, that the exact date when all enlisted was Apr. 19, 1777, and that John Crawford died of wounds Oct. 12, 1777.

Col. Hobart also stated that all these men enlisted from New Chester, and that six at least enlisted for New Chester and two for Concord; but he does not place the name of Sterling Heath<sup>2</sup> on the quota of any town.

Col. Hobart furnished but thirty-nine men in answer to the call for forty-seven, and he names two towns deficient in their quota, Alexandria, five, and Holderness, three. It is worthy of note that New Chester had made up its quota in full and furnished two or three men for other towns.

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<sup>1</sup>Joshua Wilson first enlisted in October, 1776, as will appear from the following receipt:

Mount Independence October ye 29th 1776

I, Joshua Wilson of Newboston have Inlisted in the Continental Servis in the Room of David Emerson of New Chester During this war and have Received Six pounds Lawful Money pr me Joshua Wilson

#### The Deposition of Nason Cass.

I Nason Cass of New Chester in the County of Grafton and State of Newhampshire yeoman Testifyeth and saith that in the year 1776 in the last of the month of october or the first day of the month of november I was with David Emerson Esqr of New Chester and Joshua Wilson at Mount Independence and the s<sup>d</sup> Willson agreed with the s<sup>d</sup> Emerson for to Inlist for the s<sup>d</sup> Emerson during the war in Continental Servis for a sum of Money but have forgot how much — and further saith not.

New Chester October 17<sup>th</sup> 1781

Nason Cass

Sworn to before Carr Huse on above date.

<sup>2</sup>In 1784, New Chester voted not to pay Sterling Heath any thing for his services in the Continental army; but, in 1786, it voted to pay Samuel Emerson \$20 to reimburse him for money he had paid Sterling Heath, and then voted Sterling Heath the same amount.

The summer of 1777 was especially dark and gloomy for the colonies. It was perhaps the darkest hour in the history of the war for the eastern states. In June came the news of the threatened disaster in New York state, and New Hampshire was aroused to activity. June 5, a company marched from Plymouth under the command of Lt. Col. David Webster to reenforce the garrison at Ticonderoga. They proceeded as far as Cavendish, Vt., when they met a portion of the troops from that fort on the retreat, and therefore returned. They were in service from July 6 to 16. Those from New Chester were

Lieut. Cutting Favor  
Gideon Sleeper  
John Kidder

John Bussell  
Jonathan Ingalls  
Nason Cass

Hardly had the above party returned when another alarm rang through the state. The evacuation of Ticonderoga and advance of Gen. Burgoyne were threatening the subjugation of New England. The situation was so alarming that the Committee of Safety of New Hampshire issued a call, July 14, for the legislature to convene on the 17th. A most depressing state of affairs existed. The treasury was empty; the state had no money and no means of raising any. Such had been the draught on the state for men and money that it seemed nothing more could be done. It was at this critical time that John Langdon made his memorable speech, when he said: "I have one thousand dollars in hard money. I will pledge my plate for three thousand more. I have seventy hogsheads of Tobago rum which I will sell for the most it will bring. They are at the service of the state. If we succeed in defending our firesides and our homes I may be remunerated; if we do not then the property will be of no value to me. Our friend Stark, who so nobly defended the honor of our state at Bunker Hill, may safely be entrusted with the honor of the enterprise, and we will check the advance of Burgoyne."

Such patriotism and eloquence could have but one effect. The legislature promptly voted on the 18th that one-fourth of the militia composing Gen. Stark's brigade, one-fourth of Col. Thornton's, Badger's, and Webster's regiments of Gen. Whipple's brigade be drafted and placed under the command of Gen. Stark; but such was the patriotism of the men of the state that a draft was unnecessary. Swift couriers carried the news to the remotest hamlet in the state and fifteen hundred men sprung to arms. Two days after the action of the legislature in Exeter, Capt. Edward Elliott, of Thornton, marched from Plymouth with forty-five men from this section who composed one company of the regiment commanded at the battle of Bennington by Col. David Hobart of Plymouth. Henry Hall, of Rumney, was first lieutenant of this company; Daniel McMurphy, of Alexan-



dria, was second lieutenant; Benjamin Emmons, of New Chester, was ensign, and Thomas Crawford, of New Chester, was sergeant major. The privates from New Chester were Jonathan Ingalls, John Fellows, John Kidder, John Bussell, John Clark, Jonathan Clifford, Jonathan Crawford, and Zebediah Richardson.

The troops rendezvoused at Charlestown. Gen. Stark took command, and, as soon as five hundred had arrived, pressed on to Manchester, Vt., where he arrived Aug. 7. Receiving information that the enemy designed to capture the stores at Bennington, he pressed forward and arrived there on the ninth. The battle occurred on the 16th. Gen. Stark had under his command about two thousand men. Of these, one-half were from New Hampshire, and the rest from Vermont and Massachusetts. Col. Baum, with eighteen hundred or more disciplined troops, advanced with confidence to the battle, but was badly defeated; and Col. Breyman, who came up late in the day with reinforcements, shared the same fate. Col. Baum was mortally wounded, dying the next day; and the total loss to the enemy was two hundred killed, six hundred prisoners, and one thousand stand of arms. Gen. Stark lost fourteen killed and forty-two wounded. Among the latter was Lieut. McMurphy.<sup>1</sup>

The result of this most decisive victory was far-reaching. It wonderfully cheered the spirits of the colonists, and was largely instrumental in the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga in October, following. It was in many respects one of the most brilliant victories of the war, and had a lasting influence in sustaining the colonies in the long and bitter struggle for independence.

The men from New Chester were in the service two months and seven days, having enlisted July 21, and serving till Sept. 27. Benjamin Emmons, as ensign, was entitled to six pounds per month; Thomas Crawford, as sergeant, to four pounds, eighteen shillings; John Bussell, as corporal, to four pounds, fourteen shillings; privates, to four pounds, ten shillings. They were allowed for seventy-six miles of travel to Charlestown; and from Charlestown to Bennington, and from there, home, for one hundred and seventy-six miles of travel at three pence per mile. At discharge they were each paid four pounds, ten shillings on account, leaving the balance due.

In September, 1777, a company of volunteers, under Capt. John Willoughby, marched from Plymouth and the adjacent towns to the assistance of the Northern army under the command of Maj. Gen. Gates. This company became a part of Col. Chase's regiment, under the command of Brig. Gen. Whip-

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<sup>1</sup> Lieut. McMurphy was shot through the body, but lived till Oct. 10, 1788, when he died in the twenty-ninth year of his age. His remains rest in the Burns burying-ground, just over the line in Alexandria.

ple. Those from New Chester in this company were as follows :

Cutting Favor, 2nd lieut.	Robert Forsaith, ensign
Carr Huse, sergeant	Nason Cass, corporal
Samuel Worthen, corporal	Josiah Fellows
Joshua Fletcher	

These men were at Saratoga Oct. 10, 1777. They were allowed pay for one hundred and sixty miles of travel to Manchester, Vt., via Otter Creek, and one hundred and forty miles returning, at three pence per mile. They enlisted Sept. 25, and were discharged Oct. 28, having served one month and four days. Cutting Favor was allowed, as second lieutenant, eight pounds, two shillings; the rest the same as in the Bennington campaign.

In 1777, the following return was made by the selectmen of New Chester of the amount of provisions on hand in the town :

	Flower	Pork	Butter	Sugar	Cheese
Capt. Cutting Favor,	10 lbs.	5 lbs.	0	2 lbs.	4 lbs.
Lieut. Robert Forsaith,	10	5	0	1 1-2	4
Sergt. Carr Huse,	10	4	0	2	3
Corp. Nason Cass,	12	6	0	2	6
Corp. Samuel Worthen,	10	4	0	0	5
Josiah Fellows,	10	4	0	0	5

The above named were the most prosperous and well-to-do settlers in New Chester, and when it is considered that only six families had sufficient provisions to report at all, and that none of them had even a pound of butter, and that the largest stock of flour reported was only twelve pounds, the extreme straightened circumstances of all these early settlers may be seen.

On the 17th of July, of this year, the legal voters of New Chester again assembled in town meeting "To Chuse a Committee For to Set the Prices upon Such goods and articles as the Law Directs in obedience to the Late Act passed Apr. ye 10th 1777 to affix and Settle in these Several Towns and parishes what Such Goods and Articles Shall Be Sold For." At this meeting Carr Huse, Nason Cass, and Abner Fellows were chosen "a Committee For to Prise such articles as are to Be Bought and Sold in the Town of New Chester."

In the early months of 1778, a regiment was raised in New Hampshire by order of Congress for an expedition against Canada. Col. Bedel commanded the regiment, and Capt. William Tarlton, one company. In this company were the following New Chester men, each of whom enlisted Feb. 15, to serve till Mar. 31 :

John Kidder	Josiah Fellows
Chase Fuller	Jonathan Crawford
Ebenezer Ingalls	John Clark (Sn)

In the summer of 1779, a regiment was raised in this state for service in Rhode Island, under the command of Col. Her-

cules Mooney. David Hobart was called upon to furnish six men, and he sent five. One was called for from New Chester, and a meeting was called for May 3, at the house of Abner Fellows. One article in the warrant was "To See what Method the Town will Take to Raise one Man for the Continental army and to See if the Town will Join with Alexandria for to Raise one Man More which is our proportion By order of Col. Hobart." Another article was "To see if the Town will Vote to Give any More Bounty than the Continental and State has voted to Give to those that Shall Inlist which is for to fill up the New Hampshire Regiment during the War." At this meeting, Capt. Cutting Favor and Abner Fellows were elected a "Committee to Procure one Man for the Continental Servis During the War and to Join with Alexandria in Procuring one Man More for the Continental Servis to Fill up the New Hampshire Regiment." It was "Voted that the Town would not give no More than the Continental & State Bounty as a Bounty By the Town to those that Shall Inlist in the Continental Servis."

John Kidder volunteered to fill this call, enlisting July 15, for six months in Maj. Daniel Reynold's company. He served till Dec. 26, following, when he was discharged. His compensation was twelve pounds per month. He was entitled to a bounty of \$100; to two shillings per mile for travel out, and three shillings per mile for travel home, and his subsistence amounted to twelve pounds, eighteen shillings; total amount due, one hundred and forty-two pounds, fourteen shillings. Of this the state paid forty-four pounds at discharge, and the selectmen of New Chester paid him forty-eight pounds, eight shillings. The large amount paid is accounted for by the heavy depreciation of the currency.

Aug. 16, 1779, a meeting was held at the house of Abner Fellows to act upon the proposed plan of government. The record of this meeting is brief, as follows:

Firstly Abner Fellows was Chosen Moderator For S<sup>d</sup> Meeting.

Secondly Voted For Receiveing the Plan of Government Excepting three articles Firstly Article the Third in the Declaration of Rights and also the twenty Second & twenty Fourth articles in the plan of Government Eight Voters for it and not one against it this meeting is Dissolved

As the war progressed, the currency continued to depreciate and the price of the necessities of life continued to advance. Further legislation was sought to check the evil, and another convention was called to meet at Concord. On the sixth day of September, 1779, another meeting was held at the house of Abner Fellows, "To see if the People will chuse one Man or More to Join with the Convention that is to Be held at Concord on the twenty Second day of this Instant September in order to Regulate the prices of Such articles as S<sup>d</sup> Convention Shall See Fit in order

to Give Stability to our Sinking Currency." It was voted to send a man to this convention, and Carr Huse was selected. The convention met and considered the condition of the currency and made certain recommendations which were hoped would be of some avail in checking the downward value of the currency, but to no avail.

On the 27th day of October, a meeting was held in New Chester to "See if the Inhabitants will Chuse a Committee to State the Price of Labor and all the articles that Shall Be thought proper. To State the prices to Be Taken for Inholders and for other articles that shall Be Thought Proper agreeable to a recommendation of the convention held at Concord in this State on September the twenty Second, 1779." This meeting was held; but the voters of the town evidently thought the subject too difficult for them to adjust, and so, after voting Carr Huse twelve pounds for his services in attending the convention, the meeting adjourned.

June 16, 1780, New Hampshire voted to raise six hundred recruits from the several militia regiments to serve six months, or until Dec. 31. The men needed were apportioned to the several regiments and the captains were directed to draft the number called for, each man refusing to go, to pay a fine of \$500. The following were drafted from New Chester: "John Kidder, drafted July 5, served till Dec. 6; Daniel Heath, drafted July 5, served till Dec. 6, age 16."

The great depreciation of money in those days may be seen again by the fact that these recruits were paid seven hundred and thirty-seven pounds for five and one-half months' service; three hundred and thirty-five pounds as an allowance for "blankets, &c."; seventy-four pounds, eight shillings, for one hundred and twenty-eight miles of travel at twelve shillings per mile, a total of one thousand one hundred and forty-six pounds, eight shillings. The town voted that year to pay laborers on the highway \$15 per day; while three years later, with a more stable currency, it paid but fifty cents.

A meeting was held Mar. 2, 1780, to see what the town would do to raise its "coto" of Continental men. It was evidently supposed at that time that New Chester had already raised its full proportion of men for the service, and instead of taking steps to raise more, it was "voted that those men that have Listed & Gone out of the town that Have Inlisted During the War Should be Returned to the Committee of Safety or to the Court."

Tuesday, Aug. 16, 1780, a meeting was held at the house of Col. Peter Sleeper for the express purpose of seeing what the town would do to provide its proportion of beef for the Continental army, and Capt. Cutting Favor was elected a committee to act with the selectmen.



May 28, 1881, a meeting was held at the house of Col. Sleeper "to see if the Town will Chuse a Man to Send to the Convention that is to Set at Concord on the First Tuesday of June next for the purpose of Laying a Permanent Plan or System of Government For the Future Happiness and well Being of the Good People of this State." It was voted not to send any.

At a meeting held at Abner Fellows's Aug. 13, 1781, one article in the warrant was "to See what Method the Town will take to Collect their Quoto of Beef for the Army this Present year, and 3dly to see what the Town will do Concerning the Depreciation of the Money for the Beef last year." It does not appear that anything was done at this meeting concerning the depreciation of money for beef the year before; but the recurrence of a like difficulty was avoided by raising the tax this year in hard money. The amount of beef required was 3,165 pounds, and its cost was four pence per pound.

On the twenty-second day of September, the collector of beef gave the selectmen of New Chester the following receipt:

Received of the selectmen of New Chester five Beef Cattle for the use of the Continental army weight By Estimation 2,310 pounds in part of the Proportion of Said Town for the present year, agreeable to an act of the General Court of the State of New Hampshire on the 27th of January last.

F. Blood,

Collector of Beef Western District.

Another meeting was held at Abner Fellows's, Sept. 18, 1781, "To see what Method the Town will take to Provide their Proportion of Rum to Supply the Army." At this meeting it was "Voted that Peter Sleeper should provide the Rum for the Town of New Chester which was 22 Gallons and an half of West India Rum, which was our Proportion."<sup>1</sup> This rum cost six shillings per gallon. Among the items paid by the town for that year were the following:

Allowed Lieut. Peter Sleeper three silver dollars & Eighteen New Emission Dollars which was for his time & Expenses to Portsmouth & haverhill to procure the Continental Rum which was the Towns Cotoa for 1781.

	£	s.	Pence
Paid John Clark, bounty for his son	6		
Paid Gideon Sleeper for beef	15		
Paid Carr Huse for beef	12	19	8
Paid Thomas Crawford for beef	3	15	

<sup>1</sup> For some reason the town furnished more than twenty-two gallons of rum, as appears from the following receipt:

"Rec'd of Selectmen of New Chester thirty three & 3-4 Gallons New England Rum Being a tax on the town of New Chester agreeably to an act of S'd State pased the 31st of August last past Hay<sup>ll</sup> 5 Nov. 1781.

"Jos'h Wentworth."

	£	s.	Pence
Paid Widow Craig for beef	6	7	11
Paid Abner Fellows for beef	4	11	2
Paid Benjamin Emmons for one day after beef		3	
Paid Nason Cass for his horse to Exeter on town business		3	
Paid Daniel Heath in part for his sons service to Cohos as a soldier	4	5	5
Paid for rum	7	13	

At the last named meeting, the subject of the town's quota again came up, and on this subject the following votes were passed:

Voted David Emerson, Esq., to Go to Exeter to Lay the Claim for the Town of New Chester for the Continental Soldiers to the Committee of Safety.

Voted David Emerson should have two Silver Dollars for his Servis for going to Exeter which the S<sup>d</sup> Emerson accepted for his Servis.

The next day David Emerson gave the following receipt for his two dollars:

New Chester, Sept. 19th, 1781.

Then received of Carr Huse twelve LM silver which was in full for my service for going to Exeter for carrying the Receipts & Laying in the Claims for the Continental Soldiers for the town of New Chester I Say Receiv'd in full pr Me.

David Emerson.

On the 17th of October he gave the following receipt for his traveling expenses:

New Chester, Oct. 17, 1781.

Then Received of Carr Huse, Esq., one pound four Shillings LM in Silver and two pounds Eight Shillings in the new Emission money which was for to Bear my Expenses to Exeter to Support our Claims for our Continental Soldiers pr me.

David Emerson.

David Emerson went to Exeter and there convinced the Committee of Safety that New Chester had furnished her full quota of men for the army, and brought home the following receipt:

State of New Hampshire.

In Committee of Safety.

Exeter, Oct. 18, 1781.

These certify that New Chester has made to appear to Said Committee that they have their Number of men in the Service of the United States which was proportioned to them by an act of this State.

Attest: Joseph Pearson, Secty.

At a meeting held at Abner Fellows's Monday, Mar. 18, 1782, the question of the depreciation of the money for the beef purchased in 1780 again came up, and a committee was elected

to act with the selectmen on this and other matters in connection with the depreciation of the currency that year. On the 25th of the same month, this committee and the selectmen met the parties interested and settled with all except Joshua Tolford, whose demands were reported as unreasonable. At that meeting, David Emerson was voted an extra sum of one pound, three shillings, and nine pence for his services in going to Exeter.

During the progress of the war, disputes arose, as was natural, between New Chester and other towns as to which was entitled to the credit for the enlistment of certain men. Sterling Heath was claimed by Atkinson, John Clark by Hampstead, Joshua Wilson by Goffstown, and Peter Wells by Chester and Sandown; while it was claimed by New Chester that all these men had become actual settlers of New Chester before enlistment, and, therefore, belonged to the quota of this town. The Committee of Safety at Exeter gave a hearing on these claims and many others in the state, and made a report July 4, 1781. The decision in the case of Sterling Heath, John Clark, and Joshua Wilson was in favor of New Chester; and at a rehearing, July 12, the decision in the case of Joshua Wilson was reaffirmed. Peter Wells was credited to Chester. In October, 1781, the following affidavits were given in this case, which clearly show that Peter Wells belonged to New Chester:

#### The Deposition of Reuben Wells

I Reuben Wells of New Chester in the County of Grafton and State of New Hampshire yeoman Testifyeth and saith that I was appointed By my Honoured father Thomas Wells deceased to take care of my Brother Peter Wells by his last Will and Testament & he the sd Peter lived with me from the death of my father which was in the month of March 1769 untill some time in the spring of the year 1774 and then he Being a mind to go to New Chester for to see his Brothers and went there to live by my order where he tarried a Considerable Part of the Summer with his Brothers & then Returned to me again where he staid principally with me untill towards the middle of the month of november next following & then I moved up to New Chester & left Peter with my Brother Saml Wells untill some time in the winter 1775 and then he came up to New Chester where he lived untill the Last of the Month of october Excepting once he went down to Sandown to see his Brother where he Tarried but a Few days and then Returned to me again at New Chester and in the last of october next following he went down to Sandown and tarried their but a short time and then went down to Winter hill and Inlisted him self into the servis and was in the Servis untill orders came out for men to Inlist for three years or during the war and then he Inlisted himself into the Continental Servis for three years or during the war for the Town of New Chester and was mustered for New Chester as he told me when he came home to New Chester and he would do a Turn for me and for Carr Huse he said and he agreed with us for to Serve for us and gave us a Receipt which Receipt was given the 20th of March 1777 and Saml Wells was a witness to the Receipt—and further saith not

New Chester october 16th 1781

Reuben Wells

Sworn to before Carr Huse on above date.

I Jacob Wells of New Chester in the County of Grafton & State of

New Hampshire of Lawfull age Testifyeth and saith that in the month of november 1775 that I came from Winter hill the 17<sup>th</sup> day of s<sup>d</sup> month and I came to Sandown and I saw Benjamin Straw of Sandown & he told me that he was going down to Winter hill the next day—and the s<sup>d</sup> Straw told me that Peter Wells was agoing with him down to Winter hill for to Inlist himself into the Servis—and further saith not

Jacob Wells

Lieut. Thomas Wells testified as to Peter Wells's enlistment at Winter Hill in Capt. Daniel Moor's Co., as did also Jeremiah Towle and Samuel Wells.

The following list, which is as nearly correct as can be made, includes all from New Chester who served in the colonial army during the war, and it specifies, as far as known, from what part of the town they went :

From Bristol	From Bridgewater
Lieut. Benjamin Emmons	Sergt. Thomas Crawford
Sergt. Peter Sleeper	Jonathan Crawford
John Fellows	John Crawford
Josiah Fellows	Robert Crawford
Chase Fuller	James Craige
Ebenezer Ingalls	John Craige
Jonathan Ingalls	John Clark
John Kidder	John Clark, Jr.
Gideon Sleeper	Sterling Heath
Moses Worthen	Benj. McCallister
Samuel Worthen	
Daniel Heath	
From Hill	Uncertain
Lieut. Cutting Favor	Jonathan Clifford
Lieut. Carr Huse	Zebediah Richardson
Corp. Nason Cass	Joseph Davis
John Bussell	Joshua Fletcher
Robert Forsaith	
Peter Wells	
Joshua Wilson	
Nathaniel Bartlett	

There are reasons to suppose that the foregoing is not a complete list of those from New Chester, who served in the Revolutionary army during the war, as the existing Revolutionary rolls are only fragmentary. All named served at least one term, some two or more, and some served terms not mentioned here. It is claimed by the descendants of John Kidder that he was at Bunker Hill, but this claim is not clearly established. Chase Fuller evidently served one term not named above. It is said by his descendants, on what appears to be good authority, that he was drafted in July, 1776, and started for the army, leaving his wife and one child alone in his cabin. The wife determined not to



remain alone during the absence of the husband, and so started horseback for her old home in Sandown, carrying her first-born, two years of age, in her arms. She reached Pembroke on this trip, where her second child was born July 13, 1776.

It will be noticed that the above list contains thirty-four names, which lacked but three of being just equal to the total number of enrolled men in New Chester in 1775, including those in the army. The number liable for military duty was probably increased during the war by new settlers and by boys who became of enrolment age, but still the record is remarkable. On the other hand, it is only reasonable to suppose that some who were enrolled were unable by reason of infirmities to bear arms. Surely, the service of these pioneers in the wilderness of New Chester in the cause of American Independence will bear favorable comparison with that of any other town in the state, and was such as to make all succeeding generations proud of the record of the yeomen of the town.

## CHAPTER XVIII

### MILITARY HISTORY FROM THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR TO THE CIVIL WAR

Soldiers in arms ! Defenders of our soil !  
Who from destruction save us ; who from spoil  
Protect the sons of peace, who traffic or who toil ;  
Would I could duly praise you, that each deed  
Your foes might honor, and your friends might read.  
—Crabbe.

At the November session of the legislature in 1784, a change was made in the militia system of the state. Provision was made for the organization of one regiment of light horsemen of six companies, composed of sixty-four men each. Two of these companies were formed in Rockingham and one in each of the other counties. The remainder of the militia of the state was divided into twenty-five regiments of infantry. The Fourteenth Regiment was composed of the militia in the towns of Plymouth, Rumney, Alexandria, Campton, Holderness, New Chester, Cockermouth, and Thornton.

The constitution of 1792 recognized the necessity for "a well regulated militia" as "the proper, natural and sure defence of the state." At the next session of the legislature, in December, following, the militia of the state was organized into twenty-seven regiments, which in turn were divided into six brigades, and these into three divisions.

The commander of a division was a major-general; that of a brigade, a brigadier-general; and the commander of a regiment, a lieutenant-colonel; each of the two battalions of a regiment was commanded by a major. The companies were commanded by a captain, and had, as other officers, a lieutenant, an ensign, four sergeants, four corporals, a drummer, and a fifer. The regimental staff consisted of an adjutant-general, with the rank of lieutenant, a paymaster, surgeon, surgeon's mate, sergeant-major, drum-major, and fife-major. Each battalion was entitled to a company of light infantry, and each division to a company of cavalry.

The field-officers were appointed by the governor and council; the captains and subalterns, by the governor on the recommendation of the field-officers.

The companies of light infantry were volunteer organizations, commanded by officers of their own selection, uniformed

by themselves, and supposed to be possessed of sufficient military pride to devote enough time and money to become better drilled than the ordinary militia.

The companies from Plymouth, Holderness, Rumney, Camp-ton, and Thornton composed the first battalion of the Fourteenth Regiment; and the companies from New Chester, Bridgewater, Cockermouth, Alexandria, and Hebron, the second battalion. The Fourteenth Regiment was in the Sixth Brigade and Second Division.

All able-bodied white males, between eighteen and forty years of age, were enrolled under this law, and organized into companies, one company to a town; but, as the number of men liable to military duty differed largely in the different towns, the companies differed greatly in size, and the number of companies in a regiment from seven to sixteen. The Fourteenth had ten companies. It was the duty of the captains to call out the companies for drill and inspection twice a year and at such other times as they thought proper. Each commander of a battalion was to call out his command once a year for the same purpose. The battalion was, therefore, the largest body of troops called together in times of peace, and constituted the annual muster of those days, which was probably of as great interest to the people as the annual muster of years later, when a larger display of military force was made.

In 1795, the Miami Indian war had assumed such proportions that a draft seemed probable. On the 23rd of February, a special town meeting was held in New Chester at the house of Capt. Cutting Favor, the sole object of which was "To see what Method the town will take to Enlist there Cotao of Minute men agreeable to an act of Congress." Lieut. Thomas Wells was elected moderator of this meeting. It was

Voted to Equip the Towns Cotao of Minute men with arms amunition with blankets Knapsacks and accouttriments as the law Directs

Voted to give Each man which Shall Enlist as this Towns Cotas three Dollars per man

A Vote was put to See if the town would reconsider the Second Vote which was put which was to give Three Dollars per man and Voted in the affirmative.

A Vote was put to See if the town would give the Nine men which was this Towns Cotao one Dollar per man which Should enlist & Voted in the affirmative to pay one Dollar per man Down upon his Enlisting & the other Dollar per man as soon as the Collector Could Collect it.

The same year, Bridgewater "voted to give each man who should enlist one dollar as soon as it can conveniently be collected and \$5 if called into service." The men enlisted in this emergency were not called out. Then came the trouble with France, when war seemed inevitable, and again men were enlisted for the United States service.

On the 23rd day of February, 1798, another special town meeting was held in New Chester. One article in the warrant was

To see if the Town will vote to give the Minute men which have enlisted for twelve months two Dollars each as a Town bounty and to See if the town will Vote to make each Soldier up Eight Dollars per Month with what the law allows while they are in actual Service and to see if the town will equip the Soldiers

Under this article the following business was transacted :

Fourth Voted that those Minute Men which have Enlisted for one year according to an Act of Congress Should have Two Dollars as a Town Bounty when they are Called upon to March.

Voted to give each Soldier Eight Dollars pr Month while they are in actual Service with what the law allows

Voted to Equip those Soldiers who have Enlisted with arms and accouttriments

Fortunately, war with France was averted, but the arrogance of England constantly reminded the people of the necessity of being at all times prepared for hostilities.

There was a division of sentiment among the people of New Chester and Bridgewater in regard to the necessity of war with England; but this did not prevent the people from supporting the government when war came. Both New Chester and Bridgewater did all that was thought necessary, or that other towns were doing, to encourage enlistments for the War of 1812. Bridgewater called a special town meeting for June 23, 1812, "To see if the town will answer the petition of Benj. Boardman and others in regard to soldiers that is to be raised to give them something handsome when called for." The vote was to give each man that should enlist one dollar as a bounty for enlisting, and five dollars extra if called for. In 1815, New Chester voted to give those soldiers who went to Portsmouth two dollars with what they had already received from the town; but what they had received does not appear from the records.

Among those who entered the service from New Chester were Daniel Hoit, John Rowell, Jacob M. Follansbee, Levi Follansbee, Nathan Sleeper, and ——— Sanborn. Bridgewater sent into the service, David Corless, Benj. L. Boardman, Jonathan Fellows, John Fifield, Stephen Bohonon, Horatio Kelley, Moses West Sleeper, Aaron Emmons, John Brown, and Abel Tyrrell.

Under the law of 1808, the militia of the state was divided into thirty-six regiments, and the famous Thirty-fourth Regiment was then organized. This regiment embraced the militia of the towns of New Chester and Bridgewater (later including Bristol), Hebron, Groton, Danbury, and Alexandria. Later



divisions made thirty-eight and then forty and forty-two regiments in the state; but the Thirty-fourth appears to have remained the same till the militia system of the state was abolished, in July, 1851. The captains were now required to call out their companies the last Wednesday in June, and at such other times as thought proper, not exceeding four times during the year. Each regiment was called out in September or October, either at a regimental or battalion muster. At such musters, the selectmen were required to furnish suitable meat and drink, or thirty-four cents in lieu thereof, for each non-commissioned officer and man. They were also required to keep in their respected towns a certain amount of powder, balls, flint, and camp kettles.

Previous to 1815, the officers were required when on duty to be armed with a "spontoon," or pike, but after this date with a sword or hanger only.

In 1819, the division of the regiments into battalions was abolished, and a colonel was placed in command of the regiment. The enrolment was made to include all able-bodied men from eighteen to forty-five.

The annual muster of the Thirty-fourth Regiment was the great event of the year for this section. To it, not only the young, but the old, looked forward with the keenest interest. The day of the muster was named by the brigade commander; but the place was named by the regimental commander. The following are some of the muster grounds of this regiment: In White's field, just east of this village; west of the turnpike, just south of North Bristol; on land east of the turnpike, south of the old Hoyt schoolhouse; at Crawford's corner; on land now occupied by the Bristol cemetery, (1842); on land now owned by Favor Locke, (1839); and the last, held about 1850, at South Alexandria, just north of Clark's corner, on the "gunhouse lot," so called because the gun of the artillery company was housed there. Long before daylight, on the day of the muster, all the people of this section were astir, and all the roads leading to the muster ground were alive with all sorts of vehicles, conveying soldiers and spectators, and many on horseback, with a bundle of hay or a bag of oats with which to feed the horse. Usually when the line of march was through this village, companies rendezvoused here, formed and at the proper time marched to the muster ground. It was no uncommon thing, at the firing of the morning gun at sunrise, to find companies already forming, the air filled with the martial music of the drum and fife, or, in later years, of the brass band, and the streets lined with spectators of all ages and conditions. As the hour for muster arrived, these scenes were transferred to the muster ground and there intensified. Here were a large number of peddlers or hucksters with wares of many kinds for sale,

chief of which were spirituous liquors, and "ginger bread" which sold for a uniform price of four pence "ha-penny." With all the excitement of the day, no one was completely happy without having devoured a sheet of ginger-bread, while such as could afford it must carry home at least one sheet to be divided among those who could not attend.

The program of the day was varied somewhat from year to year, but usually in the early morning there was an inspection of companies by the brigade inspector, when each musket was examined as to its serviceableness, the company being in line, and each man in turn passing his musket to the inspecting officer. This over, the cartridge box was examined to see that it contained the required amount of cartridges and priming-wire; the knapsacks, if there were any, were laid open on the ground, and these were examined, though perhaps not one contained an article that would be required in actual service. After one company had been inspected, the inspector would pass to the next, and thus the morning, or most of it, would be passed, the companies, when not otherwise engaged, devoting the time to company drill. Towards noon, the regiment would be drawn up in line, the colonel would make a show of inspecting the line, and make a few evolutions. Then, the booming of cannon would announce the arrival of the brigadier-general; the colonel would call to attention, put the line in the best possible condition, and take position at the front and center of the line. Accompanied by the colonel, the general, followed by his staff, all gaily uniformed, would pass down the line in front and up the rear, the drums beating, and the band playing. This part of the review over, the general took position at some commanding point, the colonel assumed command, and the regiment marched in review before the general; then the regiment was formed in a hollow square or *en masse*, a prayer was offered by the chaplain, and the regiment was addressed by the general. The colonel then addressed the regiment, especially if he thought himself the better speaker. Usually, the men had better opinions of themselves and their personal valor after such addresses, and were far more heroic at the sham fight in consequence. The sham fight of the afternoon was the great event of the day. The evolutions were supposed to be the same as would be made on the field of actual conflict; and the powder burnt by the infantry and the artillery made a great smoke, and a great noise, and a great impression on the militia and spectators. Such valor was simply invincible. During the day, among the spectators at least, there was many a fight that was not sham, the inspiration for which was drawn from the intoxicating liquors sold on the ground.

On muster day, there was at least a show of discipline, and the men were on their good behavior. This was especially true

of the uniformed companies, which took great pride in making a good appearance and showing their proficiency at drill; as was true, indeed, on any day they paraded.

The drill of the ununiformed militia on other days was little better than a farce. Usually, the officers had no authority over the men, and frequently the most earnest command was followed by a movement that only excited the laughter of the crowd. An attempted straight line was more often like a half circle, simply because the men chose to make it so. The law required all to appear "armed and equipped with a musket and bayonet in good condition, knapsack, canteen, cartridge box capable of holding twenty-four rounds of ammunition, priming wire and brush, and two spare flints." There was seldom any attempt to enforce the law, and the arms were of all descriptions; some serviceable, some not; one would be minus a lock, and another lack a stock or even a barrel; not because the men had to appear thus, but because they wanted to, and the fear of the law did not prevent it. At one of the last trainings held by the ununiformed company in Bristol, one man appeared with a codfish strapped to his back, and another had a few dozen crackers strung on his back; and while the drill was in progress, men would leave the ranks, help themselves to crackers and codfish, and munch away with evident satisfaction, while keeping step to the music of the drum and fife.

Perhaps the finest company of uniformed men was the Bristol Phalanx, organized in the summer of 1838, largely through the influence of John S. Bryant, Esq., who became its first captain. This company flourished till Sept. 7, 1849, when it was disbanded.

Rank was not always respected, even on muster days, as will be seen by the following incident. In September, 1830, Gen. Cook of Campton, the brigade commander, issued his call for the Thirty-fourth Regiment to parade. The call was defective in that no day was named, and Col. J. S. Bryant, who was in command, took the responsibility to warn the regiment to muster on a given day on the field just south of the Hoyt tavern in Bridgewater. On the day named the regiment mustered in full ranks. Towards noon, the general appeared on the ground, riding in the fashionable two-wheeled chaise of the day. Every one scented trouble and it soon came. The general rode up to the colonel and placed him under arrest, and ordered the next in command to dismiss the regiment. Instantly, there was great excitement. Capt. Blake Fowler, who was in command of the artillery, caused the gun to be loaded, and the piece to be run near the general's chaise and aimed at it, and then gave the order to fire. Had the command been promptly obeyed, the general would have been blown from his carriage, but fortunately it was not. The general saw the temper of the man he

had to deal with, and promptly put the whip to his horse. The captain repeated the command. This time it was obeyed; but the chaise was so far away that the discharge simply lifted the chaise on its thoroughbraces, but it stirred the general to renewed exertion to get away, which he did, though he was followed from the field and given two or three parting shots as he disappeared. Gen. Cook preferred charges against Col. Bryant, who was cashiered for calling out his regiment without authority. In 1839, Col. Bryant was again in command of the regiment. Capt. Fowler was never called to account for his part in the affair.

It was a general custom for the officers to treat their men with spirituous liquors, and much of the popularity of the officers rested in their liberality. It was said to have cost Col. Peter Sleeper a barrel of rum and a fat ox for entertainment at one muster.

Below is given a roster of the field and staff of the Fourteenth Regiment from 1794 till 1808, and of the Thirty-fourth Regiment from 1809 till 1851. From 1815, more complete returns were made to the adjutant-general of the state, in that the dates of commissions and close of service are given. From this date, a colonel was in command of the regiment, with a lieutenant-colonel as the next ranking officer. Two majors were retained till 1821; thereafter, only one. This roster also contains the names of the companies in Bristol, forming a part of the Thirty-fourth Regiment and the names of the commissioned officers of the same from 1815.

1794-5	Samuel Holmes, lieutenant-colonel in command Stephen Wells, major, First Battalion Peter Sleeper, major, Second Battalion
1796-7	Stephen Wells, major, First Battalion Peter Sleeper, major, Second Battalion
1798-1800	Peter Sleeper, lieutenant-colonel in command Stephen Wells, major, First Battalion Theophilus Sanborn, major, Second Battalion
1801-2	Stephen Wells, lieutenant-colonel in command William Preston, major, First Battalion Benjamin Boardman, major, Second Battalion
1803	Moses Baker, lieutenant-colonel in command William Webster, major, First Battalion
1804-7	Moses Baker, lieutenant-colonel in command William Webster, major, First Battalion Moses Lewis, major, Second Battalion
1808-10	Moses Lewis, lieutenant-colonel in command Ebenezer Kimball, major, First Battalion Robert McMurphy, major, Second Battalion



1812	Robert McMurphy, lieutenant-colonel in command Ebenezer Kimball, major, First Battalion
1813	Robert McMurphy, lieutenant-colonel in command Ebenezer Kimball, major, First Battalion Thomas Page, major, Second Battalion
1814	Thomas Page, lieutenant-colonel in command Enoch Melvin, major, First Battalion William Crosby, major, Second Battalion

Colonels	Date of Com.	Vacated
Luther K. Madison, lieutenant-colonel in command	June 23, 1815	Promoted
Luther K. Madison	July 4, 1816	June 7, 1817
Samuel Martin	June 19, 1817	Oct. 13, 1818
John Roby	Nov. 17, 1818	Apr. 20, 1820
Levi Flanders	May 19, 1820	Dec. 20, 1820
Wm. Crawford	Feb. 2, 1821	Aug. 31, 1822
Moses Sleeper	Nov. 8, 1822	Feb. 4, 1824
Isaac Crosby	May 17, 1824	Jan. 9, 1826
Ebenezer Webster	Feb. 2, 1826	Jan. 30, 1828
Cyrus Cass	Aug. 5, 1828	June 9, 1830
John S. Bryant	Sept. 24, 1830	Cashiered
Nathaniel P. Melvin	June 27, 1835	Promoted
Samuel Pillsbury	July 3, 1837	May 1, 1838
John Hastings	June 29, 1838	Mar. 20, 1839
John S. Bryant	June 27, 1839	June 8, 1840
Samuel D. Farrar	June 19, 1840	
David C. Willey	June 24, 1842	May 9, 1845
Samuel H. Rollins	June 30, 1845	June 17, 1848
Joseph F. Rollins	June 24, 1848	July 2, 1849
James S. Knowlton	July 6, 1849	June 24, 1850
Alpha S. Ordway	June 28, 1850	June 21, 1851
L. A. Follansbee	July 4, 1851	

## Lieutenant-colonels

Samuel Martin	Dec. 9, 1816	Promoted
John Roby	Dec. 9, 1817	Promoted
Levi Flanders	Nov. 17, 1818	Promoted
William Crawford	May 19, 1820	Promoted
Joseph Morse	Feb. 2, 1821	June 8, 1822
Moses Sleeper	June 29, 1822	Promoted
Isaac Crosby	June 16, 1823	Promoted
Ebenezer Webster	May 17, 1824	Promoted
John McClary	Feb. 2, 1826	Apr. 23, 1827
Cyrus Cass	June 26, 1827	Promoted
Nathaniel S. Berry	Aug. 5, 1828	June 8, 1829
Ichabod S. Johnson	July 1, 1829	Promoted

Lieutenant-colonels	Date of Com.	Vacated
John S. Bryant	June 22, 1830	Promoted
Rufus Pike	Sept. 24, 1830	Mar. 2, 1831
Leavitt Little	June 24, 1831	Jan. 11, 1834
Moses Eastman	July	
Nathaniel P. Melvin	July 5, 1834	Promoted
Oscar F. Fowler	June 27, 1835	June 3, 1836
Cyrus B. Bowers	June 16, 1836	June 27, 1837
John Hastings	July 3, 1837	Promoted
Walter Favor	June 29, 1838	Mar. 2, 1839
Samuel D. Johnson	June 27, 1839	June 10, 1840
Sherburn S. Worthen	June 19, 1840	Oct. 6, 1840
Samuel H. Rollins	1840	
Hosea Ballou	1841	
Solomon S. Sleeper	June 20, 1844	June 30, 1845, Pro.
Sherburne S. Merrill	June 30, 1845	June 24, 1848
James S. Knowlton	June 24, 1848	Promoted
Alpha S. Ordway	July 6, 1849	Promoted
L. A. Follansbee	June 28, 1850	Promoted
Peter Hersey	July 4, 1851	

## Majors, First Battalion

Parker Morrill	June 23, 1815	Res. June 7, 1817
Moses Sleeper	Feb. 2, 1821	Promoted
Isaac Crosby	Nov. 8, 1822	
Eben Webster	June 16, 1823	Promoted
John McClary	May 27, 1824	Promoted
Cyrus Cass	Feb. 2, 1826	Promoted
Nathaniel S. Berry	June 26, 1827	Promoted
Ichabod S. Johnston	Aug. 5, 1828	Promoted
John S. Bryant	Nov. 21, 1829	Promoted
Rufus Pope	June 22, 1830	Promoted
Nathaniel P. Melvin	June 24, 1831	Promoted
Sherburne Wells,	July 5, 1834	June 4, 1835
Cyrus B. Bowers	Jan. 27, 1835	Promoted
Samuel Pillsbury	Aug. 27, 1836	Promoted
Walter Favor	July 3, 1837	Promoted
Elhanan W. Dean	June 29, 1838	Nov. 1, 1838
Samuel D. Farrar	June 27, 1839	Promoted
David C. Willey	1841	
Samuel H. Rollins	June 24, 1842	Promoted
Sherburne S. Merrill	Jan. 1, 1845	Promoted
James S. Knowlton	July 3, 1847	Promoted
Alpha S. Ordway	June 24, 1848	Promoted
L. A. Follansbee	July 6, 1849	Promoted
Peter Hersey	Nov. 1, 1850	Promoted
Franklin Ferrin	July 4, 1851	

Major, 2nd Battalion	Date of Com.	Vacated
Samuel Martin	June 23, 1815	Promoted
Levi Flanders	June 19, 1817	Promoted
William Crawford	Nov. 7, 1818	Promoted
Joseph Moore	May 19, 1820	Promoted
Moses Sleeper	Feb. 2, 1821	Promoted
Adjutants		
Robert Smith	July 17, 1815	Nov. 20, 1822
John Tolford	Feb. 17, 1823	Died Apr. 1823
George W. Sumner	Apr. 30, 1823	Feb. 5, 1824
Nathaniel S. Berry	June 15, 1824	Promoted
Samuel C. Brown	June 5, 1827	June 9, 1830
John W. Swett	June 30, 1830	Sept. 1, 1831
Oscar F. Fowler	Sept. 1, 1831	Promoted
George Minot	Sept. 9, 1834	Promoted
Walter R. Webster	June 18, 1835	Promoted
Sherburn S. Worthen	July 31, 1837	Promoted
Solomon S. Sleeper	July 1, 1840	
Sherburn S. Merrill	Aug. 3, 1842	Promoted
Samuel H. Rollins	Aug. 22, 1848	July 2, 1849
Charles C. Rice	Aug. 21, 1849	Mar. 14, 1850
Thomas Dunlap	Mar. 14, 1850	
Charles Brown	May 12, 1850	
James S. Knowlton	Apr. 29, 1852	
Quartermasters		
John Tolford, Jr.	July 17, 1815	
Caleb Flanders	June 10, 1819	
John Tolford	Sept. 20, 1819	Promoted
George W. Sumner	Feb. 17, 1823	Promoted
Samuel C. Brown	June 15, 1824	Promoted
David C. Pratt	Apr. 30, 1825	
Solomon Cavis	June 5, 1827	June 23, 1830
Samuel B. Bryant	July 21, 1830	Mar. 2, 1831
Oscar F. Fowler	Apr. 6, 1831	Promoted
Lewis Heath	Sept. 1, 1831	Promoted
George Minot	Mar. 28, 1834	Promoted
Walter R. Webster	Sept. 8, 1834	Promoted
John B. Marston	June 8, 1835	
Oliver Currier	July 31, 1837	
Solomon S. Sleeper	July 25, 1838	Promoted
Gustavus Bartlett	July 1, 1840	
Josiah D. Prescott	Aug. 3, 1842	
William A. Berry	Aug. 27, 1845	
Gilmona Martin	Aug. 22, 1848	
Gustavus Emmons	Aug. 29, 1848	

Quartermasters	Date of Com.	Vacated
James M. Knowlton	Aug. 12, 1849	
Joseph W. Fellows	Aug. 12, 1850	
Edwin C. Brown	Mar. 27, 1851	
Charles C. Follansbee	Apr. 29, 1852	
Paymasters		
John Emmons	July 17, 1815	Removed by address
Meshech Cate	Apr. 21, 1817	
George Sumner	Oct. 27, 1817	
George Sumner	June 9, 1819	Promoted
David C. Pratt	Feb. 17, 1823	Promoted
Nathaniel S. Berry	Apr. 30, 1823	Promoted
Solomon S. Cavis	June 15, 1824	Promoted
Charles H. Rogers	June 5, 1827	
John W. Swett	Aug. 28, 1828	Promoted
Levi H. Sleeper	June 16, 1829	June 9, 1830
Luther Colby	Aug. 2, 1830	
Elias Colby	Aug. 13, 1832	
George Minot	May 20, 1833	Promoted
Walter R. Webster	Mar. 28, 1834	Promoted
John B. Marston	Apr. 25, 1835	Promoted
John Pillsbury	July 31, 1837	
Gustavus Bartlett	July 25, 1838	Promoted
Jonas Minot	July 1, 1840	
Pela Phelps	Aug. 3, 1842	
Chas. Haddock	Apr. 7, 1843	
Ira P. Ballou	Aug. 27, 1845	
A. Russell	Aug. 11, 1847	
Gustavus Emmons	Aug. 22, 1848	
G. Martin	Aug. 29, 1848	
Frederick Clay	Aug. 24, 1849	
Gilford Martin	Aug. 12, 1850	
Surgeons		
William Gale	June 17, 1813	Apr. 2, 1817
Daniel Favor	Apr. 21, 1817	
Daniel Favor	June 10, 1819	Dis. July 1, 1823
Robert Burns	July 2, 1823	Discharged
Jacob S. Eaton	Sept. 17, 1828	Mar. 16, 1836
Alonzo A. Whipple	Mar. 17, 1836	
William Proctor	Aug. 9, 1837	
M. C. Sawyer	July 25, 1838	
Ira S. Chase	Aug. 3, 1842	
Rufus Fellows	Aug. 27, 1845	
Moses C. Hoyt	Aug. 11, 1847	
Francis Ayer	Aug. 22, 1848	
Hadley B. Fowler	Aug. 24, 1849	



Surgeon's Mates	Date of Com.	Vacated
Ariel Huntoon	June 17, 1813	
Robert Burns	Apr. 30, 1821	Promoted
Samuel Smith	Sept. 19, 1823	Mar. 25, 1829
Robert S. Copp	Mar. 25, 1829	Apr. 2, 1830
Joseph Gould	Apr. 20, 1830	July 11, 1831
Joseph W. Howe	July 11, 1831	
Moody C. Sawyer	Aug. 20, 1833	
Ephraim K. Webster	Mar. 17, 1836	
Parson Whidden	July 25, 1838	
David T. Huckins	July 1, 1840	
Daniel S. Chase	Sept. 9, 1843	
A. Moulton	Aug. 22, 1848	
George M. Cavis	Aug. 26, 1850	

## Chaplains

Stephen Pillsbury	Apr. 30, 1821	June 18, 1828
Phineas Cook	Sept. 11, 1833	
David Calley	Aug. 22, 1848	
Lyman Culver	Aug. 21, 1849	
Albert C. Manson	Aug. 26, 1850	

Bristol Phalanx<sup>1</sup> — Eighth Company of Infantry

## Captains

John S. Bryant	Aug. 31, 1837	Promoted
Nathaniel S. Berry	June 27, 1839	Dec. 6, 1839
O. F. Fowler	Dec. 6, 1839	Sept. 25, 1840
Samuel H. Rollins	Sept. 25, 1840	
George W. Ingalls	Aug. 3, 1842	Apr. 14, 1844
Carr Huse	Apr. 26, 1844	Promoted
Alpha S. Ordway	Apr. 28, 1846	Promoted
J. H. Johnson	Aug. 21, 1848	

## Lieutenants

Nathaniel S. Berry	Aug. 31, 1837	Promoted
O. F. Fowler	June 24, 1839	Promoted
John C. Downing	Dec. 6, 1839	Sept. 25, 1840
George W. Ingalls	Sept. 25, 1840	
Levi Nelson, Jr.	Aug. 3, 1842	Apr. 11, 1844
Levi Locke	Apr. 26, 1844	Oct. 7, 1845
Jonathan H. Johnson	Oct. 7, 1845	Promoted
Orrin C. Gordon	Aug. 22, 1848	

## Ensigns

Oscar F. Fowler	Aug. 31, 1837	Promoted
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<sup>1</sup> This company was disbanded Sept. 7, 1849

Ensigns	Date of Com.	Vacated
John C. Downing	June 24, 1839	Promoted
Samuel H. Rollins	Apr. 16, 1840	Promoted
Levi Nelson, Jr.	Sept. 25, 1840	
Peter Whittemore	Aug. 3, 1842	Apr. 5, 1844
Abram Dolloff	May 13, 1844	Aug. 22, 1848
Thomas H. Tucker	Sept. 21, 1848	

First Company (In distinction from First Company Infantry.)

### Captains

Moses Wells	July 17, 1815	July 10, 1817
Moses Sleeper	July 10, 1817	Promoted
John McClary	Aug. 17, 1821	Promoted
Daniel Sleeper	Aug. 24, 1824	Dec. 26, 1827
John Allen	Dec. 26, 1827	Nov. 18, 1830
Nicholas Dolloff	Nov. 18, 1830	Feb. 15, 1834
Daniel Darling	Feb. 15, 1834	Feb. 12, 1835
John Hastings	Mar. 27, 1835	Promoted
Henry Wells	Sept. 13, 1837	Apr. 18, 1839
George W. Dow	Apr. 13, 1839	By address
David C. Willey	July 1, 1840	Promoted

### Lieutenants

Moses Atwood	July 17, 1815	Res. July 10, 1817
Horatio Kelley	June 10, 1817	
Lewis Dolloff	Aug. 17, 1821	June 11, 1824
John Allen	Aug. 24, 1824	Promoted
Sanborn Gale	Dec. 26, 1827	Feb., 1831
Daniel Darling	Mar. 2, 1831	Promoted
Jesse F. Kendall	Feb. 15, 1834	Apr. 3, 1835
Henry Wells	Apr. 4, 1835	Promoted
John M. R. Emmons	Sept. 13, 1837	Apr. 22, 1839
David C. Willey	Apr. 18, 1840	Promoted
Oliver S. Hall	July 1, 1840	

### Ensigns

Samuel Underhill	Sept. 17, 1815	Vacated
David Sleeper	Aug. 17, 1821	Promoted
Nester Young	Aug. 24, 1824	Mar., 1827
Nicholas Dolloff	Sept. 22, 1828	Promoted
Daniel Darling	Nov. 18, 1830	Promoted
Jesse F. Kendall	Mar. 2, 1831	Promoted
John Hastings	Feb. 15, 1834	Promoted
John M. R. Emmons	Apr. 4, 1835	Promoted
George W. Dow	Sept. 13, 1837	Promoted
Samuel S. Fellows	July 1, 1840	

## First Company Infantry

Captains	Date of Com.	Vacated
Ebenezer Webster	Apr. 20, 1820	Promoted
Cyrus Cass	July 2, 1823	
Edward Evans	Jan. 9, 1826	Dec. 29, 1826
John S. Bryant	Jan. 15, 1827	Promoted
Ephraim Sargent	Feb. 25, 1830	Disbanded
Richard R. Stuart	Sept. 13, 1837	

## Lieutenants

Cyrus Cass	Sept. 21, 1820	Promoted
Edward Evans	July 2, 1823	
John S. Bryant	Jan. 9, 1826	Promoted
Samuel P. Flanders	Jan. 15, 1827	Died
Ephraim Sargent	Mar. 26, 1828	Promoted
Wm. L. Chase	Feb. 25, 1830	
George S. Sanders	Aug. 29, 1837	

## Ensigns

Samuel Underhill	Sept. 17, 1815	
Edward Cross	July 2, 1820	
John S. Bryant	July 2, 1823	Promoted
Samuel P. Flanders	July 9, 1826	Promoted
Ephraim Sargent	Jan. 15, 1827	Promoted
Wm. L. Chase	Mar. 26, 1828	Promoted
Samuel E. Flanders	Feb. 25, 1830	
Timothy A. Pillsbury	Aug. 29, 1837	

First Company was disbanded May, 1838.

## First Company Infantry

The company here named, having the same designation as the above, appears to have been organized in March, 1841.

## Captains

George D. Hamilton	Mar. 22, 1841	
Samuel S. Fellows	Sept. 7, 1841	Aug. 20, 1844
Thomas R. Emmons	Aug. 20, 1844	Apr. 1, 1846
Fred Kidder	Apr. 1, 1846	May 4, 1847
Rufus Eaton	Aug. 4, 1847	Mar. 17, 1849
James T. Sanborn	Mar. 17, 1849	

## Lieutenants

George Blodgett	Mar. 22, 1841	
Fred Kidder	Aug. 10, 1842	Promoted
James T. Sanborn	Aug. 10, 1847	Promoted
Hollis Thompson	Mar. 17, 1849	

Ensigns	Date of Com.	Vacated
Rufus Eaton	Aug. 22, 1844	Promoted
Hollis Thompson	Apr. 18, 1848	Promoted
George H. Hart	Mar. 17, 1849	Mar. 17, 1854
Fletcher C. Wells	Mar. 28, 1854	

#### Company of Artillery

Daniel W. Stevens, captain, commissioned Apr. 20, 1820.  
 Moses Sanborn, captain, commissioned Apr. 28, 1830.  
 Samuel Wells, captain, commissioned Feb. 4, 1832.  
 Blake Fowler, captain, commissioned Feb. 15, 1834.  
 Moses Sanborn, first lieutenant, commissioned June 16, 1829.  
 Blake Fowler, first lieutenant, commissioned Feb. 2, 1832.  
 Moses Sanborn, second lieutenant, commissioned Mar. 30, 1828.  
 Blake Fowler, second lieutenant, commissioned Apr. 28, 1830.

In a company of artillery disbanded Nov. 1, 1833, the following from this section served as officers :

Richard Sawyer, captain, commissioned Dec. 1, 1823.  
 Abbott Lovejoy, captain, commissioned Dec. 2, 1828.  
 Webster W. Heath, first lieutenant, commissioned Nov. 24, 1824.  
 Abbott Lovejoy, second lieutenant, commissioned Aug. 30, 1827.  
 Levi Bartlett, cornet, commissioned Apr. 28, 1830.

May 16, 1816, Benj. Emmons was commissioned captain of a company of cavalry ; he was previously commissioned lieutenant of the same company, July 17, 1815. Richard Sawyer was commissioned first cornet, Nov. 3, 1819.



## CHAPTER XIX

### MILITARY HISTORY—THE CIVIL WAR

When can their glory fade?  
O the wild charge they made!  
All the world wondered.

—*Tennyson.*

The election of Abraham Lincoln, in the fall of 1860, caused all lovers of liberty to rejoice; yet it determined the South to carry out its many threats to withdraw from the Union. During the winter of 1860-61, state after state passed ordinances of secession, and every day increased the thick gloom that hung over the country. When, on the 13th day of April, 1861, Fort Sumter was fired upon, the entire North was aroused to action, and the wildest enthusiasm swept over the land. One sentiment only was expressed—the Union must be preserved regardless of cost. Two days later the President called for 75,000 men to serve three months to retake the property of the United States in the hands of the seceders, and such was the response that room could not be found for the thousands that offered themselves for the service.

New Hampshire was asked to furnish one regiment of one thousand men. On the morning of the eighth day after the call was issued, five men from Bristol went to Concord and enlisted in the First Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteers. These men were Horace L. Ingalls, Webster Heath, Frank Darling, Charles H. Horne, and Moses Eastman. In this same party were Frederick W. Prescott, and his brother, Horace M., both residents of New Hampton, but natives of Bristol. On the nineteenth of this same month, the Sixth Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteers, while en route to Washington, was attacked by a mob at Baltimore. The first bloodshed of the war ensued, three men of the Sixth Regiment being killed. Luther C. Ladd, who was born in Bristol, Dec. 22, 1843, was the first to fall; and thus a native of this town was the first who died in defence of his country in the Civil war.

As soon as the call to arms was sounded, the ladies of this town at once organized a "Soldiers' Aid Society" and had frequent meetings to prepare lint and bandages, to make "housewives" filled with needles, thread, wax, and thimbles, and to prepare clothes and delicacies for those in the hospitals or in the field.

In July, 1861, came the call for 300,000 volunteers for three years, and of these Bristol furnished six men. In July, 1862, came another call for 300,000 men for three years. Thus far, no action of the town had been needed to fill its quota, but when this last call came, a legal meeting was called for the fourth day of August. At this meeting a deep solemnity was apparent, for every one realized that the occasion was no ordinary one. William A. Berry was elected moderator; Judge Oscar F. Fowler at once rose, and moved that the town pay \$100 to each resident of Bristol who should volunteer under the last call, payable as soon as he should be accepted and mustered into the service. Abbott Lovejoy, who was one of the few Democrats in town opposed to coercing the South, hoping to defeat the measure, at once moved an amendment—that the words “one hundred” be stricken from the motion and the words “two hundred” inserted instead. The amendment was accepted; and Mr. Lovejoy at once took his hat and left the hall, with the remark, “There, now, fight over it.” But he had mistaken the spirit of the meeting. The amendment was not even discussed, and before Mr. Lovejoy had reached the street, the amendment was carried by a hand vote, sixty-four to fifty-six. This bounty was to be paid to all enlisting before Aug. 20, and the selectmen were authorized to borrow the money for the purpose.

When the last call was issued, Col. George W. Stevens and Col. Thomas J. Whipple, of Laconia, conceived the idea of raising a regiment in Belknap county and the towns adjoining. The idea was a taking one, and these two men and some others, rode through the towns within fifteen or twenty miles of Laconia, urging the raising of a regiment from this section of the state to be called the Twelfth Regiment. In every community visited by them, great enthusiasm was aroused, and men proposing to enlist called for other volunteers, and recruiting was brisk. Blake Fowler and David E. Everett, both of Bristol, called for volunteers from Bristol and vicinity. In a few days, Mr. Fowler enrolled seventy-one men, chiefly from Bristol and Alexandria; and these, with others enlisted in Danbury by James T. Smith and in New Hampton by Hosea Q. Sargent, formed Company C. Mr. Fowler became its captain; Mr. Smith, its first lieutenant, and Mr. Sargent, its second lieutenant. Mr. Everett enlisted forty-three men. These were merged with others enlisted in Sanbornton by J. Ware Butterfield, Esq., and in Hill by Bradbury M. Morrill, and formed Company D. At an election held at Piper’s mills in Sanbornton, Mr. Butterfield was elected captain; Mr. Everett, first lieutenant, and Mr. Morrill, second lieutenant. The total number enlisting on the quota of Bristol in this regiment was forty. Thus it happened that a larger number from this section served in the Twelfth Regiment than

in any other organization. Within the territory named, enough men enlisted in the short space of two weeks to fill the ranks of the regiment, one thousand strong—a record claimed at the time to be without a parallel in the entire country.

August 4, 1862, came a call for 300,000 nine-months' men, and Sept. 17, another special town meeting was held at which it was voted to extend the bounty of \$200 to the nine-months' men. Under these two calls the town paid bounties to fifty volunteers, amounting to \$10,000.

Sept. 25, 1863, at a special town meeting, it was voted "to pay \$300 bounty to each member of the enrolled militia from Bristol who is or may be drafted or conscripted to serve in the army, or to each substitute for such conscript, and to authorize the selectmen to raise such sums as may be necessary for this purpose on the credit of the town."

As the war progressed, it became more and more difficult to obtain volunteers to fill the quota of the towns. Then came the evils of the substitute business, when large numbers of foreigners enlisted for the large bounties offered, many of them to desert at the first opportunity and reenlist under another name to obtain another bounty. From this practice came the term "bounty jumper." It is with no special pride that we record the fact that Bristol sent into the service forty-six substitutes. It should be added, however, that this was no more proportionately than were sent by other towns, and further, that some of these men did valiant service. Two who served on the quota of Bristol were killed in action and four wounded.

In 1863, the town paid \$300 cash each to nine conscripts, amounting to \$2,700, and hired twelve volunteers at a cost of from \$540 to \$575 each, a total of \$6,802.

Feb. 1, 1864, the President issued a call for 500,000 men; and March 12, following, came another call for 200,000, and this was followed, July 18, by still another call for 500,000 more. August 11, of this year, the town held a special town meeting, when the following vote was passed:

Voted to raise a sum not exceeding \$25,000 to be appropriated as bounties, and the selectmen be authorized to borrow the whole or any part thereof found necessary on the credit of the town and pay such bounties as they may find necessary and deem it expedient to pay in current funds or coin to each volunteer, who shall be mustered into the service of the United States, or who has been so mustered into said service since the last call of the president for 500,000 men, to fill the quota of the town, and to each soldier who has volunteered under this call as a substitute for an enrolled man, or to the person entitled thereto, provided the enrolled man represented by such substitute pays \$100 of the sum necessarily furnished to procure him, and that the town furnish a substitute for each enrolled or drafted man who will hereafter pay to the selectmen or into the town treasury, for the use of the town, the sum of \$100 until our quota is full, and that the same vote apply and be applicable to each enrolled man in town subject to a draft or who may hereafter be drafted

under any future call for more men, upon said enrolled or drafted man's paying a like sum, and authorize and instruct the selectmen of the town to borrow the necessary amount of money on the credit of the town to carry into effect this vote.

Under this vote, any man who paid \$100 into the town treasury was entitled to have a substitute furnished by the town regardless of cost. Nineteen men paid into the treasury \$1,900; and the town paid for eighteen substitutes to take their places, \$17,915; an average of \$995.29. It also paid this same year for twenty-three volunteers, \$5,500; an average of \$247.82 each. The incidental expenses in procuring these men were \$738.90. James T. Sanborn secured most of these, but Samuel H. Rollins was associated with him a part of the time. One item of expense was \$100 paid a party for a trip to Canada to procure substitutes.

It will thus be seen that the town paid for bounties and incidental expenses during the war, \$43,655. Of this great amount, the general government refunded to the town \$10,895. The selectmen disbursed during the war state aid to families of soldiers, to the amount of \$4,951.

During the progress of the war, there were many homes in Bristol made desolate by the loss of loved ones. After each battle where Bristol men were engaged, there was intense anxiety to learn who of her sons had fallen. This was especially true after the battle of Chancellorsville. The newspapers had reported, correctly, a loss of more than half of the men of the Twelfth Regiment, engaged, and such was the desire of the people to know the truth, that a letter from the author of this history, one of the survivors, was taken from the post-office, opened and read to the assembled crowd, before it was delivered to the party to whom it was addressed. Bristol lost at Chancellorsville five killed and ten wounded.

By the Roll of Honor given below, it will be seen that Bristol furnished one hundred and twenty-two different men for the service; that five served two terms, and one three terms, equal to one hundred and twenty-nine men in all; that of these, twelve died of disease; twelve were killed in action or died of wounds, and twenty-two were wounded, of whom ten were wounded twice and one three times. Still others were discharged on account of wounds or disease and died soon after.

#### ROLL OF HONOR

The military record is here given, briefly, of each soldier who served on the quota of Bristol. This is followed by a like record of seventy-seven natives of Bristol who served from various towns and states in the Union army, but not on the quota of Bristol. The record of battles in which each was engaged and other services performed is as complete as can be gathered. It



should not be considered as conclusive that a soldier was in no engagements because none are mentioned. All organizations named are of New Hampshire unless otherwise stated ; where no rank is given, a private is to be understood ; when no term of enlistment is stated, three years is to be understood. "See Gen." means see genealogy for further facts.

1. Ash, Moses, Co. D, 4th Regt., was born in Hill and was a resident of New Hampton when he enlisted, Aug. 14, '61. He reenlisted in the same company Feb. 14, '64. But little is known of his record except that he died of wounds Nov. 14, '64, at Fortress Monroe. His second enlistment was on the quota of Bristol.

2. Belcher, Franklin W., Co. A, 1st Regt. Cavalry, was born in Francestown, enlisted Mar. 24, '64, age 20 ; saw service in the Army of the Potomac. He died of disease at Darnestown, Md., Apr. 30, '65.

3. Bodwell, George, Co. A, 17th Regt., was a native of Concord, 22 years of age when he enlisted, Nov. 18, '62 for nine months ; transferred to Co. B, 2nd Regt., Apr. 16, '63 ; deserted, May 25, '63 ; returned, Aug. 11, '63 ; discharged, Oct. 9, '63.

4. Brown, Charles S., Co. C, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 8, '62 ; was in the battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, and at the latter engagement was severely wounded in the thigh by a minie ball, which was not extracted till after his death, twenty-three years later. By reason of his wound he was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps, 86th Co., 2nd Battalion. He was discharged for disability at Fairfax Seminary, Va., Oct. 7, '64. (See Gen.)

5. Chase, John F., Co. D, 12 Regt., enlisted Aug. 12, '62, and was discharged at Washington, D. C., Feb. 23, '63. (See Gen.)

6. Cheney, Charles W., Co. C, 12 Regt., enlisted Aug. 15, '62 ; was at the battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville ; was killed at the last named battle, May 3, '63. (See Gen.)

7. Clark, Sergt. Stillman, Co. B, 1st Regt. Cavalry, enlisted Mar. 24, '64 ; served in Army of the Potomac ; was in battles of White Oak Swamp, Wilson's Raid, June 22-30, '64, which included a battle each day for seven days ; appointed sergeant, July 1, '65 ; mustered out, July 15, '65. (See Gen.)

8. Clement, Charles H., Co. H, 14th Regt., was a native of Newport, 23 years of age when he enlisted, Aug. 2, '64, on the quota of Bristol ; was discharged May 18, '65. He had previously served eight months in the 6th Regt.

9. Cochrane, Russell R., 1st Co., Heavy Artillery, enlisted Aug. 19, '64 ; age, 22 ; a native of New Hampton. He saw service in the defences of Washington ; mustered out, Sept. 11, '65.

10. Corser, Sergt. Norman D., Co. C, 5th Regt., enlisted Sept. 2, '61. He served in Army of the Potomac; was wounded at Fair Oaks, June 1, '62; reenlisted, Mar. 29, '64. The last enlistment was credited to Littleton. He was appointed sergeant; wounded, June 3, '64, at Cold Harbor; mustered out, June 28, '65. (See Gen.)

11. Currier, George C., Co. D, 12th Regt., enlisted as a drummer, Aug. 12, '62. In action the duties of the musicians were to look after the wounded. In this capacity he saw much of the fighting in which his regiment was engaged, though he did not carry a musket. He was mustered out with his regiment June 21, '65. (See Gen.)

12. Damon, Amos, Co. D, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 12, '62, as a musician (fifer). He spent nearly all his enlistment as a nurse in the hospitals and was most efficient and faithful in this position. He was mustered out with his regiment June 21, '65.

13. Danforth, Corp. Eugene A., Co. M, N. H. Battalion New England Cavalry, was born in Bethel, Vt., and 20 years old when he enlisted, Jan. 15, '62. He reenlisted Feb. 1, '64; appointed corporal, July 1, '65; mustered out, July 15, '65. His second enlistment was credited to Bristol.

14. Darling, Sergt. Frank, Co. I, 1st Regt., and Co. D, 12th Regt., was a native of Hill, but had resided in Bristol from boyhood, and at date of first enlistment was 22 years old. He enlisted Apr. 23, '61, in 1st Regt. for three months, and was mustered out May 4, following. Aug. 14, '62, he enlisted in Co. C, 12th Regt. and was mustered as sergeant. He was mustered out with the regiment June 21, '65. In April, '66, he went to Richmond, Va., where he died some months later.

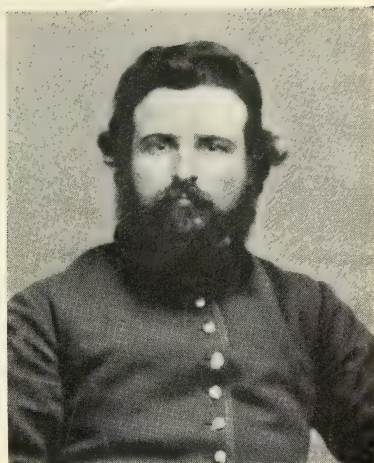
15. Dennison, Sergt. John P., Co. C, 17th Regt., was a native of Brookline, Mass., and a resident of Bristol, 44 years old, when he enlisted, Oct. 21, '62, for nine months. He was appointed quartermaster sergeant, and was mustered out Apr. 16, '63. He served later as quartermaster sergeant in 1st Heavy Artillery on the quota of Lancaster.

16. Dow, Jacob H., Co. H., 4th Regt., was a native of Claremont, but for some years had been a resident of Bristol, and was 41 years of age when he enlisted, May 30, '61. For some reason he was not assigned to any regiment or mustered into the U. S. service under this enlistment, but did service at Portsmouth, until discharged, Aug. 17, following. The next day he reenlisted in the 14th Regt. He was discharged for disability at Morris Island, S. C., Oct. 31, '63. He died at Hill Apr. 20, '84.

17. Drake, Henry, Co. C, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 9, '62. He was wounded at Chancellorsville May 3, '63; discharged with his regiment, June 21, '65. (See Gen.)



CHARLES W. CHENEY  
(Killed at Chancellorsville)



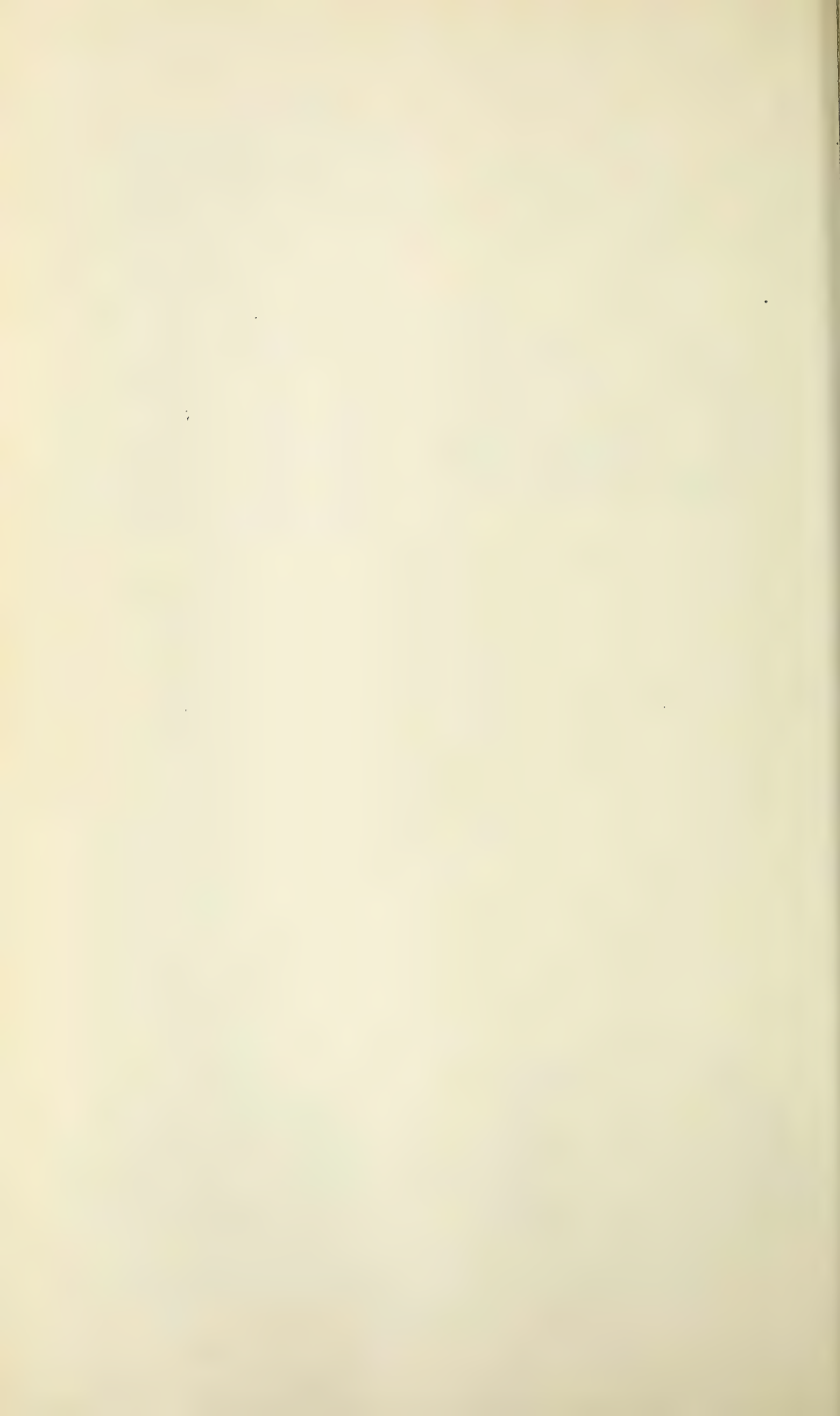
SERGT. STILLMAN CLARK



CHARLES N. DRAKE



LIEUT. DAVID E. EVERETT





18. Drake, Charles N., Co. C, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 7, '62. He was in the battles of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg. At the last named engagement a grape shot shattered his right leg, and while lying behind a large rock, to which he had crawled for shelter, the line of battle changed, bringing him between the two lines, and he was soon after struck by a minie ball from the Union side, which passed through his left lung very near his heart. At night he was carried from the field and the next day in the afternoon his leg was amputated. He recovered and lived more than 32 years, able to do a fair day's work at carpentering. He was discharged at Baltimore, Md., Mar. 15, '64. (See Gen.)

19. Dustin, Moses, 1st Regt. Cavalry, was born in Hill and 43 years old when he enlisted, Mar. 26, '64. While in camp at Concord he was taken sick and there died Apr. 12, '64,

20. Eastman, Moses, Co. I, 1st Regt., was a native of Lowell, Mass., but was a resident of Bristol when the war commenced, and 22 years of age. He was one of the first five who enlisted from Bristol in the 1st Regt., Apr. 23, '61, for three months. He served with this regiment in Maryland and Virginia, and was mustered out Aug. 9. Aug. 12, '62, he enlisted in Co. C, 12th Regt. He was discharged for disability Dec. 16, '62. His first enlistment was credited to Bristol; his second, to Alexandria.

21. Easter, Robert, Co. C, 12th Regt., was born in England, but was a resident of Bristol, and a tanner by trade, when he enlisted, Aug. 8, '62. A few days after the regiment arrived at the seat of war he was taken sick and died of typhoid fever at Washington, Oct. 19, following. He left a widow and daughter at Bristol.

22. Emerson, John A., Co. E, 2nd Regt., was born in Bristol, Nov. 28, '43, the son of William and Betsey (Collins) Emerson. He enlisted Apr. 23, '61, for three months, but was not mustered; reenlisted, May 21, '61, for three years in the 2nd Regt.; served in the Army of the Potomac and participated in the battles of First Bull Run, Siege of Yorktown, Williamsburg, Seven Days' fight in McClellan's Retreat, Malvern Hill, Second Bull Run, Fredericksburg, and Gettysburg. In the last named engagement he was taken prisoner and sent to Belle Island, Richmond, where he remained eight months. He was then sent to Andersonville, Ga., where he spent another eight months; from there he was sent to Florence, S. C., and after four months more of prison life was sent to Goldsborough, N. C., where he was paroled Feb. 16, '65; discharged, May 2, '65, at Concord, after a service of four years and three months.

23. Emmons, Sergt. Gustavus, Co. C, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 16, '62, as a private and was mustered as corporal; a few months later, was made sergeant. He was at Fredericksburg,

and was killed at Chancellorsville, May 3, '63; funeral at Bristol, June 17. (See Gen.)

24. Everett, Lieut. David E., Co. D, 12th Regt., enlisted as a private Aug. 20, '62; mustered as first lieutenant, Sept. 8, '62. He was with his company at Fredericksburg, but soon after resigned on account of rheumatism. His discharge was dated Jan. 26, '63. (See Gen.)

25. Fellows, Henry A., Co. C, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 14, '62; served with his company at Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg; at the last named battle was severely wounded in the arm and had several ribs broken by a piece of shell. After receiving his wounds he walked 20 miles to the rear. He was admitted to the hospital at Philadelphia, where he died of his wounds Aug. 20, following. He was one of the best soldiers in the regiment and fought with desperation at the battle of Chancellorsville. On his mother's side, his grandfather was in the War of 1812, and his great-grandfather in the Revolutionary war. (See Gen.)

26. Fellows, Lieut. Joseph P., Co. C, 12th Regt., a brother of above, enlisted Aug. 20, '62. He served nearly all his term in the commissary and quartermaster's departments, and consequently escaped battles; mustered out with the regiment, June 21, '65. The day before his discharge he was given a commission as brevet second lieutenant of Co. K, but was not mustered. (See Gen.)

27. Ferrin, Sergt. Enos B., Co. D, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 12, '62; appointed corporal, Jan. 20, '64; sergeant, June 1, '65; mustered out, June 21, '65; was in the battles of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Swift Creek, and Cold Harbor, and Siege of Petersburg, and escaped all unharmed. During the Gettysburg campaign, he was on detached service as guard for a wagon train, and so escaped that battle. (See Gen.)

28. Fogg, Sergt. James M., Co. B, 6th Regt., was a native of Bristol and 30 years of age when he enlisted, Oct. 3, '61. He was wounded at Fredericksburg Dec. 13, '61; reenlisted, Dec. 22, '63, on the quota of Bristol; appointed sergeant; wounded, May 18, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va.; captured, Oct. 1, '64, at Poplar Springs Church, Va.; released; mustered out, July 17, '65.

29. Fowler, Capt. Blake, Co. C, 12th Regt., was 58 years of age when he received his commission as captain of Co. C, Sept. 8, '62. He commanded his company till after the battle of Chancellorsville; discharged, May 11, '63. (See Gen.)

30. Fowler, Maj. Hadley B., M. D., son of Capt. Fowler, above, enlisted as a private Aug. 18, '62, in the 12th Regt. At a meeting held in Laconia Aug. 26, '62, by the regiment, he was elected surgeon, and was commissioned as such by the governor, and mustered into the U. S. service Aug. 28, with



SERGT. ENOS B. FERRIN



MAJ. HADLEY B. FOWLER



CAPT. BLAKE FOWLER



ADNA M. HALL  
(Died of wounds)





the rank of major. He served the entire term of his regiment and was mustered out with it June 21, '65. At Warrenton, Va., in the fall of '62, he was taken prisoner with his father and son, Geo. H. Fowler, who, at thirteen years of age, was serving as servant for his father; but they were exchanged or paroled some months later. He was present for duty as surgeon at every battle in which his regiment was engaged except Fredericksburg, when he was a prisoner of war. At Chancellorsville he had charge of the brigade field hospital, and was operating surgeon of the 2nd Brig., 2nd Div., 3rd Corps at Gettysburg. He was chief operator of the 18th Corps at Drury's Bluff, and on the day of the battle of Cold Harbor, took charge of the 18th Corps hospital, and held this position till the fall of '64, when he was sent, by the War Department, to Ohio, as one of a board of examiners to inspect the sick and wounded soldiers in that state. On his return, he was ordered by Gen. B. F. Butler to construct a hospital at Point of Rocks, Va., for the Army of the James, and was in charge of the same till the hospital was no longer needed. In this hospital he had 3,500 beds for patients; 500 for attendants and officers; 34 surgeons; 3 chaplains; a quartermaster and a commissary, 5 stewards, 31 ward masters, 25 matrons, 300 nurses, 75 cooks, and 85 officers and men for guard duty. The management of this hospital required executive ability of a rare order, but Maj. Fowler was equal to the occasion, and he had a model hospital. In May, '65, he received an appointment from the War Dept., to the Freeman's Bureau, under Gen. O. O. Howard, but declined. (See Gen.)

31. Grey, John A., Co. I, 8th Regt., was a native of Bristol, and was residing here and 21 years of age when he enlisted, Dec. 4, '61. He was taken sick before leaving the state, and died at Manchester, Jan. 28, '62.

32. Hall, Adna M., Co. D, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 12, '62. At the battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville he escaped unharmed, but at Gettysburg, in the early part of the fight of the second day, he was struck by a minie ball in the shoulder while in a stooping position, and it plowed a path down his back. He died of his wound at Philadelphia, Sept. 15, '63. (See Gen.)

33. Hall, Oliver P., Co. D, 12th Regt., a brother of the above, enlisted Aug. 12, '62. He was in all the general engagements of his regiment except Fredericksburg and Gettysburg. At Chancellorsville, while trying to bind up the death wound of a comrade, he was severely wounded in the hip by a minie ball. Unable to travel, he was taken prisoner, but paroled. Recovering from his wound, he rejoined his regiment the next fall. At Bermuda Hundred, Nov. 17, '64, while on the picket line, he was again captured, and was in Libby and Belle Island prisons, Richmond, and that at Salisbury, N. C., from which place he

was exchanged Apr. 15, '65, and discharged at Concord May 30, '65. (See Gen.)

34. Harlow, William P., Co. C, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 12, '62. His term of service was very brief, as he died of typhoid fever at Washington, Oct. 16, '62. (See Gen.)

35. Heath, Sergt. Webster, Co. I, 1st Regt., and Co. B, 9th Regt., enlisted Apr. 23, '61, for three months; was mustered out Aug. 9, '61. June 2, '62, he enlisted in the 9th Regt. for three years, and was mustered in as sergeant. He served in the Army of the Potomac, at the Siege of Vicksburg, and again in the Army of the Potomac, and was mustered out June 10, '65. (See Gen.)

36. Horne, Charles H., enlisted Apr. 23, '61, in Co. I, 1st Regt., for three months, and was mustered out with his regiment Aug. 9, following. Sept. 9, '61, he enlisted in Co. F, 2nd Regt. U. S. Sharpshooters for three years, and was discharged for disability Mar. 14, '62. (See Gen.)

37. Horne, Corp. Augustus Paul, Co. B, 9th Regt., enlisted June 4, '62. He was wounded at Fredericksburg, Dec. 13, '62; appointed corporal, May 1, '64; wounded and captured, May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania; released, Dec. '64, and mustered out June 10, '65. (See Gen.)

38. Hill, Henry O., Co. B, 1st Regt. Cavalry, enlisted Mar. 28, '64; served till July 15, '65, when he was mustered out. He had previously served about one year in Co. D, 15th Regt., on the quota of Northfield. He was a native of Cambridge, Mass., and 18 years of age at the date of his first enlistment.

39. Howe, Corp. Moses B., Co. D, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 7, '62. He was appointed corporal Jan. 25, '64, and served for some time as color corporal, but much of his time he served as nurse. He was mustered out with the regiment June 21, '65. (See Gen.)

40. Hoyt, Corp. Levi, Co. A, 1st Regt. Cavalry, was a native of Grafton, and 22 years old when he enlisted, Mar. 14, '64. He was appointed corporal; wounded, Mar. 2, '65, at Waynesboro, Va.; discharged, May 20, '65, at Frederick City, Md.

41. Hunt, Sylvester D., Co. G, 15th Regt., was a native of Bristol; resided in Bristol, and was 18 years old when he enlisted, Oct. 18, '62, for nine months; mustered out, Aug. 13, '63.

42. Huse, Stephen D., Co. G, 18th Regt., enlisted Dec. 29, '64, for one year, and was mustered out July 29, '65; died at Bristol, Jan. 12, 1902. (See Gen.)

43. Hutchinson, Daniel Smith, Co. C, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 9, '62; mustered out, June 21, '65; died at Franklin Falls, Dec. 9, '91. (See Gen.)

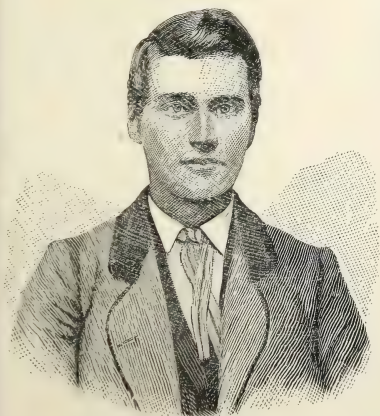
44. Ingalls, Sergt. John H., Co. C, 12th Regt., enlisted



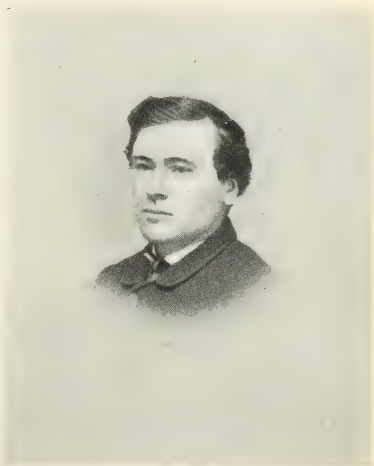
OLIVER P. HALL



WILLIAM P. HARLOW  
(Died of disease)



SERGT. JOHN H. INGALLS



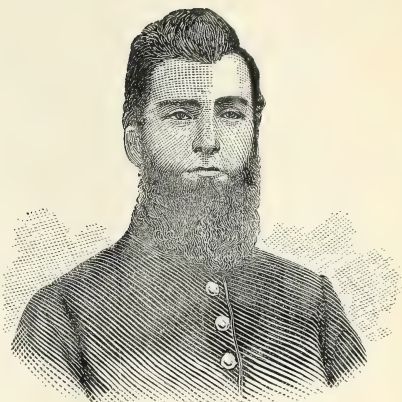
SERGT. HORACE L. INGALLS



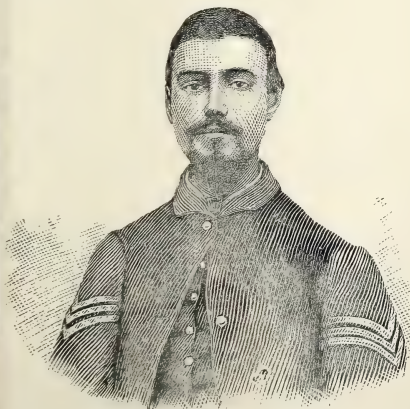




LIEUT. ALONZO W. JEWETT



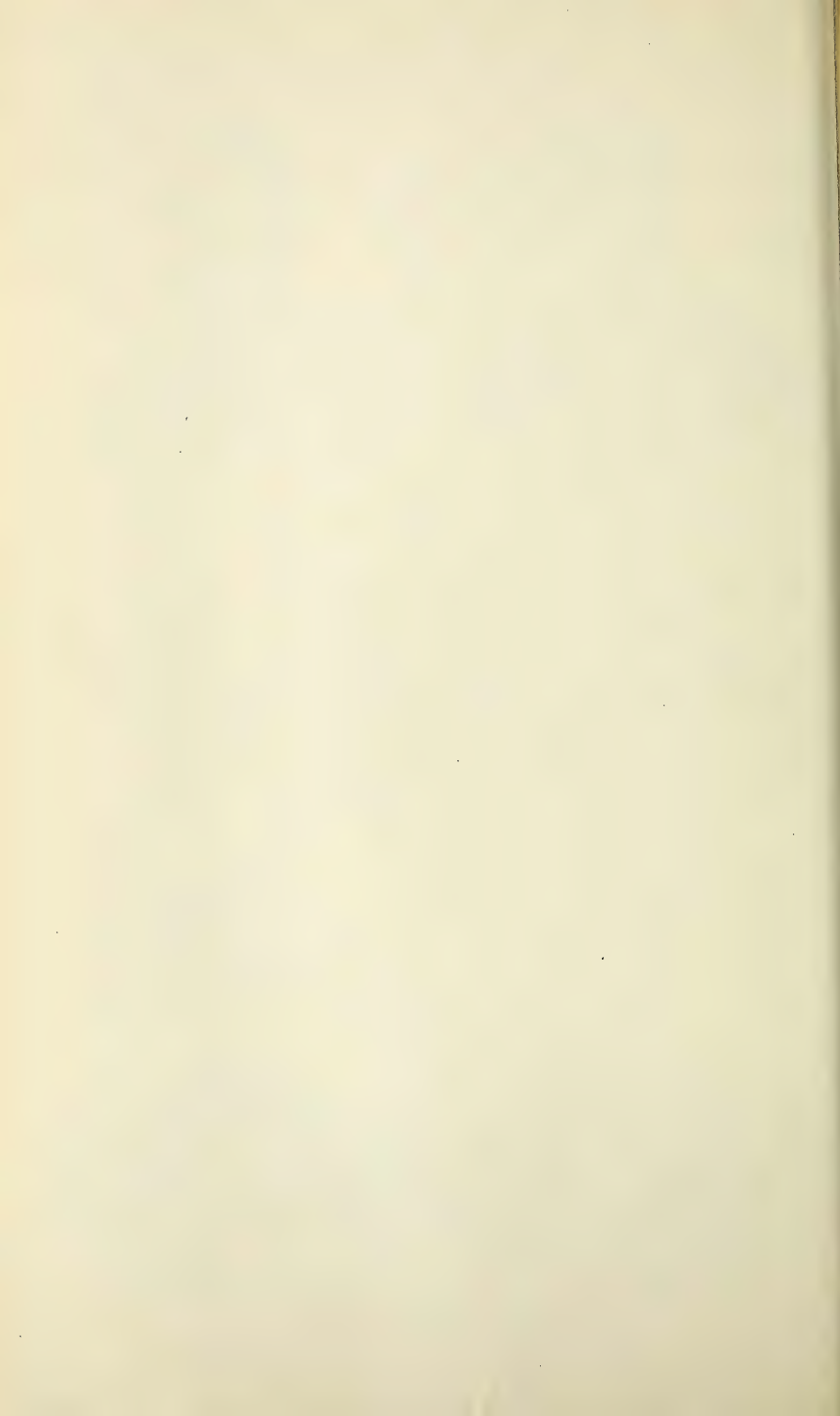
LEVI B. LANEY



SERGT. URIAH H. KIDDER



HENRY R. KIDDER  
(Killed at Chancellorsville)



Aug. 19, '62, mustered as sergeant. He was discharged by reason of chronic diarrhea Apr. 16, '63, and died at his home in Bristol of this disease, Dec. 5, following. (See Gen.)

45. Ingalls, Sergt. Horace L., was one of the first to enlist from Bristol. He served in Co. I, 1st Regt.; Co. H, 8th Regt., and Co. G, 18th Regt.; enlisted first, Apr. 23, '61, for three months, and served in the 1st Regt. till this regiment was mustered out, Aug. 9, following. Dec. 2, '61, he enlisted for three years in the 8th Regt., and served in the Department of the Gulf till May 2, '63, when he was discharged. Dec. 16, '64, he enlisted in Co. G, 18th Regt., for one year, and was mustered the same day as sergeant, and appointed commissary sergeant; mustered out, July 29, '65. In each enlistment he was credited to Bristol and the last time he refused a much larger bounty than Bristol was paying rather than be credited to any other than his native town. (See Gen.)

46. Jenness, Corp. Charles G., Co. A, 1st Regt. Cavalry, was born in Chichester, and 21 years old when he enlisted, Mar. 11, '64. He was appointed corporal May 1, '64, and mustered out July 15, '65.

47. Jewett, Lieut. Alonzo W., Co. D, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 12, '62, and was mustered as sergeant. He was made first lieutenant of Co. I, Dec. 2, '63. He was in all the principal engagements of the regiment except the Siege at Petersburg, at which time he was acting quartermaster of field hospital, and later of the 12th Regt., and was assistant quartermaster of the post at Danville. At Cold Harbor he was slightly wounded; was mustered out with the regiment, June 21, '65. (See Gen.)

48. Kidder, Henry R., Co. D, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 12, '62. He was one of the first in the regiment to fall, being killed at Chancellorsville, May 3, '63. He was lying on the ground with the regiment, in the second line of battle, before becoming engaged, when a minie ball pierced his brain. (See Gen.)

49. Kidder, Sergt. Uriah H., Co. D, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 12, '62. He was appointed corporal Jan. 8, '63, and sergeant Nov. 3, '63. He was in every engagement of his regiment up to Cold Harbor, where he was severely wounded with a minie ball in his thigh, and was not able to do active service afterward. At Gettysburg a piece of shell helped him over a fence, a towel in his knapsack probably saving his life. At Chancellorsville he lay beside his brother, Henry, named above, when he was killed; discharged, on account of his wound, at Point of Rocks, Va., May 28, '65. (See Gen.)

50. Laney, Levi B., Co. C, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 19, '62. He participated in the following battles: Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Drury's Bluff, Swift Creek, and Cold Harbor. At Chancellorsville he was slightly wounded in left arm and

taken prisoner. After twelve days he was paroled from Belle Island, Richmond, and sent to Camp Parole, Annapolis, Md., and returned to the regiment Nov. 10, following. At Cold Harbor he was wounded slightly in left arm and severely in right shoulder. The surgeons in dressing the wound unjointed the shoulder joint and removed four inches of the arm bone. He was discharged June 19, '65. (See Gen.)

51. Maclinn, George D., Co. D, 3rd Regt., enlisted May 25, '61, the second man in Bristol to enlist for three years; discharged for disability, at Hilton Head, S. C., Dec. 3, '62. (See Gen.)

52. Marden, Edwin O., Co. E, 5th Regt., was drafted Oct. 20, '63, and instead of furnishing a substitute, he responded personally, and served till mustered out with the regiment, June 28, '65. (See Gen.)

53. Marden, Charles H., Co. B, 1st Regt. Cavalry, was born in Grafton, Vt., and was 18 years of age when he enlisted, Mar. 28, '64. He was wounded at Kearneysville, Va., and died of his wounds Aug. 25, '64.

54. Melville, Charles, born in England, enlisted Apr. 15, '62, as an ordinary seaman. He served as James Ramsbottom, on U. S. Gunboats "North Carolina," "Sabine," and "Hartford"; wounded, Aug. 5, '64, in battle of Mobile Bay; discharged from receiving ship "New York City," Jan. 17, '65, by reason of expiration of service; died, Jan. 5, '67, at Rochester.

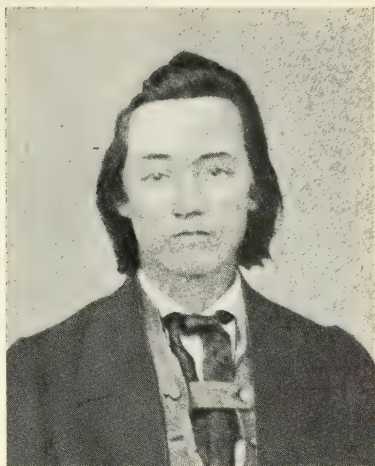
55. Musgrove, Corp. Abbott C., Co. H, 115 N. Y. Vol. Inf. He was at work at Cohoes, N. Y., when he enlisted, July 21, '62. Bristol being his home, he was claimed on the quota of Bristol and this claim was allowed. He was with his regiment at Harper's Ferry, when that post was surrendered by Gen. Miles. He was at the battle of Olustee, Fla.; was hospital steward at Hilton Head, S. C., and was in several engagements in the Army of the James; was appointed corporal, and served as color corporal, and while carrying the colors at the battle of Deep Bottom, Aug. 16, '64, he fell with a minie ball through his body. His last words were: "Tell my friends I die for my country and die happy." (See Gen.)

56. Musgrove, Capt. Richard W., Co. D, 12th Regt., and Co. I, 1st Regt. U. S. Vol. Inf, a brother of above named, enlisted Aug. 12, '62. He was mustered in as corporal; appointed sergeant, Mar. 17, '63; first sergeant, Feb. 1, '64; was at battles of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville (where he had one musket shattered and another knocked from his hands), at Gettysburg (where he carried the state colors on the third day's fight), and at Wapping Heights. When the regiment was stationed at Point Lookout, he was detailed for duty at the camp for prisoners of war, where he had charge of 1,000 men, and later was sergeant of the provost guard at Gen. Gilman Mars-





CAPT. RICHARD W. MUSGROVE



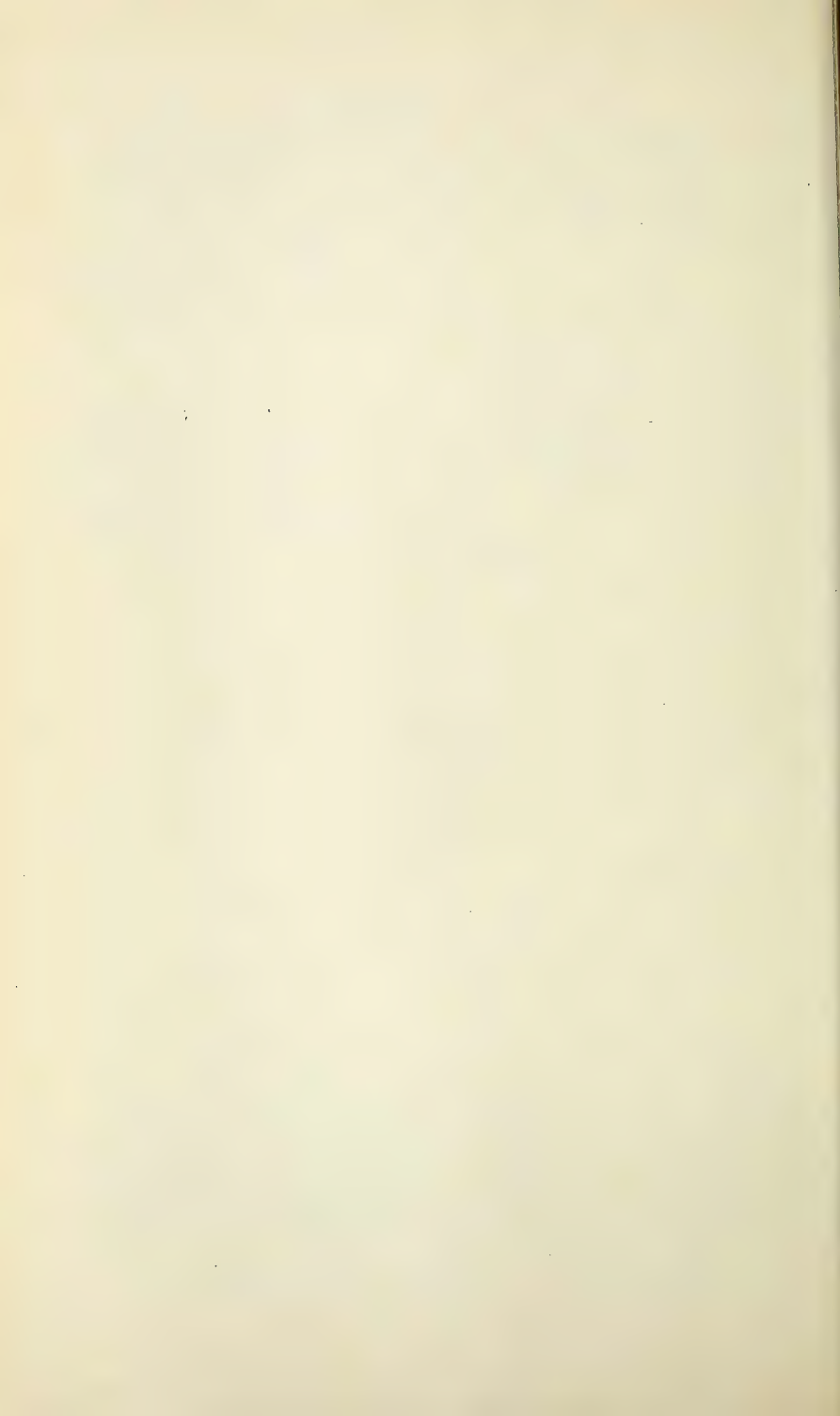
CORP. ABBOTT C. MUSGROVE  
(Killed at Deep Bottom)



CORP. ALBERT NELSON  
(Died of disease)



DAN P. NELSON  
(Killed at Chancellorsville)



ton's brigade headquarters; discharged, Apr. 23, '64, to accept promotion, and Apr. 24, '64, was appointed first lieutenant of Co. D, 1st Regt. U. S. Vol. Inf., a regiment, organized by Gen. Butler, and composed of prisoners of war who had taken the oath of allegiance and enlisted into the service of the Union; appointed captain of Co. I, same regiment, Aug. 13, '64, and mustered out, May 21, '66, after a service of three years and nine months. While in this regiment, he served three months in Norfolk, Va., as provost guard, and the balance of the time on the northwest and western frontiers, being stationed one year at Fort Ridgely, Minn. In the fall of '65, his company with three others opened what is now the Smoky Hill route of the Union Pacific railroad, from Atchison, Kan., to Denver, Col. In winter of '65-6, he was stationed at what is now Fort Wallace, Kansas, over 300 miles from the nearest settlement on the east. (See Gen.)

57. Nelson, Dan P., Co. D, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 12, '62; was in the battle of Fredericksburg, and at Chancellorsville, where he was killed June 3, '63. He was the oldest of three brothers who served in the same company. (See Gen.)

58. Nelson, Corp. Albert, Co. D, 12th Regt., brother of above, enlisted Aug. 12, '62, was at the battle of Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville, at the latter of which he was wounded, May 3, '63. He returned to the regiment in the fall of '63, and was appointed corporal Feb. 5, '64. He died Feb. 10, '65, of chronic diarrhea, while at home on a sick furlough. (See Gen.)

59. Nelson, Major J., Co. D, 12th Regt., another brother, enlisted Aug. 12, '62; was at Fredericksburg and wounded at Chancellorsville; discharged, July 3, '65, to date June 21, '65. At the battle of Chancellorsville, Albert was first wounded in the head by a piece of shell, and Dan went to his assistance. While helping him from the field, Major was found, wounded, but not so badly but that he lent a hand in assisting Albert. A few minutes later, Dan received his death wound. A ball struck him in the back and penetrated his bowels, protruding in front. The enemy were close upon them, and Dan begged his brothers to leave him rather than all should be captured, and so they left him to die alone. It was in memory of the two deceased brothers that Nelson Post, G. A. R., Bristol, was named. (See Gen.)

60. Osgood, Sergt. Thomas E., Co. D, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 12, '62; was mustered as corporal; appointed sergeant, Mar. 31, '63. He was in the battle of Fredericksburg, at Chancellorsville (where he was wounded in the right arm with a minie ball), Swift Creek, Relay House, and at Drury's Bluff. At Drury's Bluff he was wounded in the left leg with a piece of shell, which caused a contusion, resulting in a long and dangerous sickness, and causing so much trouble in later years that he was obliged to use crutches. He did no service after his last wound and was discharged July 20, '65. (See Gen.)

61. Peabody, Thomas E., Co. A, 1st Regt. Cavalry, was born in Nashua, and was 18 years old when he enlisted, Mar. 24, '64. He was reported missing, June 30, '64, on Wilson's Raid on Weldon railroad in Va.; gained from missing; discharged, June 22, '65, at Concord.

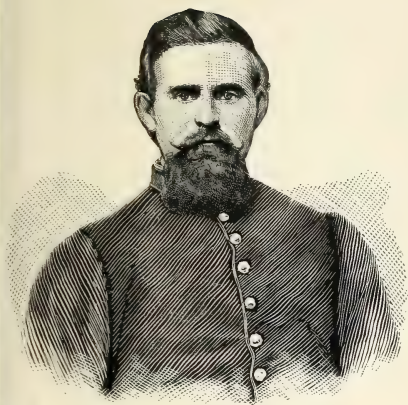
62. Plummer, Corp. Jonathan P., Co. B, 9th Regt., was a native of Meredith, and 19 years of age when he enlisted, July 14, '62. He was wounded May 18, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va.; appointed corporal, Nov. 5, '64; mustered out, June 10, '65.

63. Randolph, Sergt. Henry A., Co. C, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 12, '62, and was mustered as first sergeant. Sergt. Randolph had served in the British army and was a good drill master, and his services were often called for in this capacity by his superior officers. Aug. 1, '63, by reason of having broken his leg, he was transferred to Co. C, 12th Invalid Corps as corporal; Feb. 11, '64, re-transferred to his old company. At the battle of Fredericksburg, on the night of the retreat of the army across the Rappahannock, he had charge of a squad on the picket line. By an oversight or as a part of the scheme to cover the retreat, no orders were given to withdraw the pickets. He discovered the situation and withdrew, arriving at the river just as the last boats were being removed, and his squad were the last to cross. After his return to the regiment, he was in the battles of Bermuda Hundred, Swift Creek, Relay House, Drury's Bluff, Port Walthall, and perhaps Cold Harbor; discharged for disability, May 16, '65, at Point of Rocks, Va., as corporal. He died Aug. 17, '84. (See Gen.)

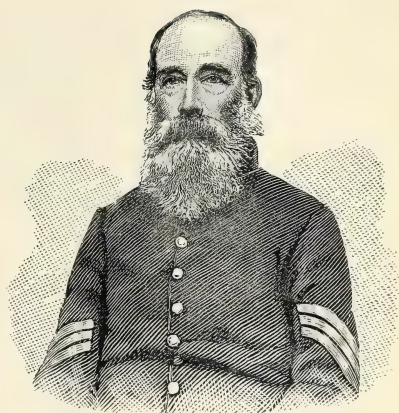
64. Rowe, Corp. Louis, Co. D, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 12, '62. He came to Bristol from Canada when a young man and learned the wheelwright trade, and was a good workman. He was not naturalized and therefore not subject to a draft, but he refused a good offer to stay at home and go later as a substitute for the party making the offer in case he should be drafted. He was at the battle of Fredericksburg, and at Chancellorsville was severely wounded, the same minie ball wounding his left hand and piercing his right lung. This wound entitled him to a discharge, but he preferred to return to the regiment, which he did the following winter, and did good service as guard of quartermaster stores. He engaged in the fight at Drury's Bluff from choice. He was appointed corporal Jan. 20, '64, and mustered out with the regiment June 21, '65. After 19 years of suffering he died of his wound in Bristol, June 27, '82. (See Gen.)

65. Saunders, Benjamin, Co. C, 12th Regt., and Co. A, 1st Regt. Cavalry. He first enlisted Aug. 11, '62. He was wounded at Chancellorsville, and discharged Oct. 22, '63, at Washington. Mar. 15, '64, he enlisted in the 1st Regt. Vol. Cavalry; June 30, '64, he was captured on Wilson's Raid on the

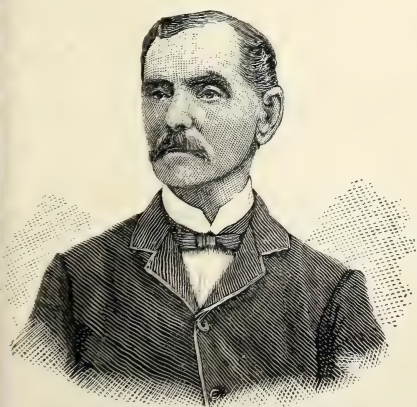




MAJOR J. NELSON



SERGT. THOMAS E. OSGOOD



SERGT. HENRY A. RANDOLPH



CORP. LOUIS ROWE



Weldon railroad, and died Nov. 1, '64, in prison at Florence, S. C.; both enlistments credited to Bristol. (See Gen.)

66. Simonds, Merrill, Co. B, 1st Regt. Cavalry, enlisted Mar. 26, '64; died of exhaustion, June 26, '64, while on the march near Christianville, Va. (See Gen.)

67. Sleeper, David C., Co. C, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 20, '62; discharged for disability, Dec. 16, '62, at Washington. (See Gen.)

68. Smith, Corp. Charles G., Co. D, 12th Regt., was born in Moultonboro. He was a miller in Bristol and 31 years of age when he enlisted, Aug. 12, '62. He was mustered as corporal. At the battle of Chancellorsville, one knee was shattered by a piece of shell or a minie ball and he died of his wounds June 6, following, at Aquia Creek, Va. He left a widow in Bristol. A brother, David R., served in the same company from Hill.

69. Smith, Olney P., N. H. Battalion, New England Cavalry, was born in Grafton, but was a resident of Bristol when he enlisted, Jan. 21, '62. He was captured May 30, '62, at Front Royal, Va.; released; died of disease, Oct. 11, '62, at Annapolis, Md.

70. Swett, Roswell D., Co. C, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 9, '62. He was conspicuous for his bravery at Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and Wapping Heights. At Chancellorsville five bullets passed through his clothes. In October, '63, while suffering from chronic diarrhea, he was granted a sick furlough, and while *en route* for his home, died at Boston, Mass., Oct. 12. (See Gen.)

71. Swett, Benjamin, Co. H, 15th Regt., a brother of above, enlisted Sept. 16, '62, for nine months; mustered out, Aug. 13, '63. (See Gen.)

72. Swett, Sylvester, Co. C, 12th Regt., a brother of above, enlisted Aug. 13, '62. He was in the battles of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg. At the last named battle his haversack and canteen were shot from his side, and he was wounded with a minie ball in his right ankle. The ball was not extracted till 48 hours later, and it was five months before he could walk. The surgeons advised amputation but this he refused to allow, and thus saved his foot. May 1, '65, he was transferred to 52nd Co., 2nd Battalion Veteran Reserve Corps, and discharged July 7, '65, at Philadelphia, Pa. (See Gen.)

73. Tilton, Lieut. Timothy, Co. C, 12th Regt., enlisted Aug. 13, '62, and was mustered as corporal. He was present for duty nearly every day of his entire term of service; took an active part in every battle in which his regiment was engaged, and escaped without a scratch, except that received from a sliver from a tree at Cold Harbor. He was appointed sergeant Aug. 28, '63; 1st sergeant, Oct. 4, '64, and brevet 2nd lieuten-

ant, May 18, '65; but declined muster on his commission; was mustered out with his regiment June 21, 1865. His cheery good nature and ready wit made his presence a constant blessing to his comrades. (See Gen.)

74. Twombly, George W., Co. D, 12th Regt. was a native of Gilmanton and 29 years of age when he enlisted, Aug. 16, '62. He was wounded at Chancellorsville; transferred to Co. I, 1st Invalid Corps, Sept. 2, '63; discharged, July 14, '65. His father served in Co. D, 12th Regt.

75. Wallis, Orren W., [Wallace] Co. D, 12th Regt., and Co. E, 3rd Regt., Veteran Reserve Corps, enlisted, first, Aug. 12, '62, and was discharged for disability at Falmouth, Va., Mar. 21, '63; Jan. 31, '65, enlisted in V. R. C., as above stated and was discharged for disability July 27, '65. His first enlistment was credited to Sanbornton; his second, to Bristol.

76. Willey, Stephen M., Co. E, 1st Regt. Cavalry, was a native of Gilford, 41 years old, when he enlisted, Aug. 6, '64; mustered, July 15, '65; died, Aug. 20, '89, at Auburn.

#### SUBSTITUTES

77. Austin, Charles, born Penn.; age, 22; enlisted, Dec. 24, '63; assigned to Co. D, 9th Regt; deserted, Jan. 28, '64, at Hall's Gap, Ky.

78. Bennett, Corp. William, born Eastport, Me.; age, 19; enlisted, Oct. 14, '63; assigned to Co. B, 3rd Regt.; deserted, Nov. 7, '64, at Staten Island, N. Y.; gained from desertion, Dec. 22, '64; appointed corporal, July 12, '65, and mustered out July 20, '65.

79. Burns, Richard, born in Ireland; age, 22; enlisted, Dec. 23, '63; assigned to Co. A, 9th Regt.; deserted at Camp Nelson, Ky., Jan. 23, '64.

80. Clark, John, born Boston; age, 23; enlisted, Oct. 14, '63; assigned to Co. B, 3rd Regt.; deserted to the enemy, Apr. 13, '64, at Jacksonville, Fla.

81. Collins, William, born Ireland; age, 35; enlisted, Oct. 9, '63; served in Co. H, 3rd Regt.; wounded at Ware Bottom Church, Va., June 16, '64; and at Deep Bottom, Va., Aug. 18, '64; transferred to the 119th Co., Veteran Reserve Corps; discharged for disability, June 18, '65; died at Lowell, Mass., Aug. 9, '66.

82. Colston, William, born Norway; age, 32; enlisted, Dec. 31, '63, and assigned to Co. D, 6th Regt.; wounded at the Mine Explosion, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64; mustered out, July 17, '65.

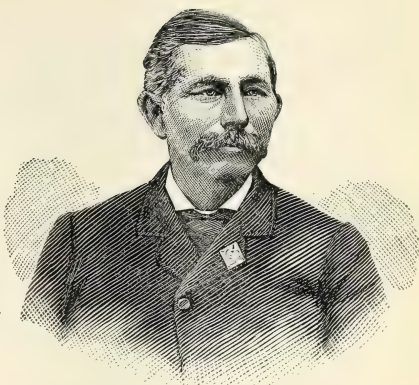
83. Eaton, W. H. The town paid \$100 for this man in '64, but no evidence can be found that he ever entered the service, even for a day.

84. Fowler, Harvey, born in Canada; was 19 years old





CORP. CHARLES R. SMITH  
(Died of wounds received at Chancellors-  
ville.)



BREVET-LIEUT. TIMOTHY TILTON



SYLVESTER SWETT



ROSWELL D. SWETT  
(Died of disease)



when he enlisted, Aug. 24, '64; Aug. 27, sent to the 5th Regt. as a recruit; no further records; supposed to have deserted while *en route* to the regiment.

85. Garvis, Edward L., was born in Germany; age, 29; residence given as Bristol; enlisted, Dec. 23, '63; assigned to Co. D, 4th Regt.; mustered out, Aug. 23, '65; supposed to be identical with E. L. Gerrish, of town report.

86. Gettings, Charles, born England; age, 31; enlisted, Nov. 12, '64, and served in Co. M., 1st Regt. Heavy Artillery; mustered out, June 9, '65.

87. Hill, Thomas, born England; age, 18; enlisted, Aug. 23, '64, and assigned to Co. I, 5th Regt.; deserted, Oct. 10, '64, near Petersburg, Va.; gained from desertion, Jan. 11, '65; discharged, Mar. 24, '65, by sentence of general court martial.

88. Johnson, John born Sweden; age, 20; enlisted, Dec. 31, '63; served in Co. F, 6th Regt.; discharged, May 29, '65, at Washington.

89. Johnson, Thomas, born Newburyport, Mass.; age, 22; enlisted, Aug. 7, '63; assigned Co. K, 5th Regt.; transferred Co. G, same regiment, Nov. 20, '64; mustered out, June 28, '65.

90. King, John, born England; age, 24; enlisted, Dec. 16, '63; served in Co. F, 6th Regt.; wounded, May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va.; mustered out, July 17, '65.

91. Leary, Dennis, born Ireland; age, 20; enlisted, Dec. 7, '63; served in Co. B, 9th Regt.; killed at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, '64.

92. Lodge, Thomas, born Canada; age, 20; enlisted, Aug. 24, '64; sent to 5th Regt., Aug. 27; no further records; supposed to have deserted *en route* to regiment.

93. Mallory, William J., born Ireland; age, 29; enlisted, Nov. 5, '64; served in Co. M, 1st Regt. Heavy Artillery; mustered out, June 9, '65.

94. Malmgrist, Gustave A., born Sweden; age, 20; enlisted, Oct. 14, '63; assigned to Co. D, 3rd Regt.; deserted, Nov. 7, '64, at Staten Island, N. Y.

95. Mann, Samuel. The town paid \$200 for this man in '64, but there is nothing to show that he ever entered the service.

96. McAdams, Patrick, born Ireland; age, 35; enlisted, Aug. 5, '64; assigned to 14th Regt.; on muster and descriptive roll, Aug. 19, '64; no further records.

97. McCarty, John, born England; age, 20; enlisted, Aug. 2, '64; assigned to 14th Regt.; no further records.

98. McJennis, James, born Canada; age, 22; enlisted July 14, '64; Co. K, 9th Regt.; deserted at City Point, while *en route* to regiment, Aug., '64.

99. Mitchell, Henry, born Ireland; age, 26; enlisted, Aug. 16, '64; assigned to Co. K, 6th Regt.; transferred to Co. G, same regiment, Nov. 20, '64; killed at Farmville, Va., Apr. 7, '65.

100. Osborn, Thomas, born Canada; age, 22; said to have resided in Bristol; enlisted, Dec. 23, '63; assigned to 9th Regt.; deserted, Jan. 6, '65, at Paris, Ky.; supposed to be identical with Thomas Osgood of town report (not Thomas E. Osgood of 12th Regt.).

101. Plummer, Edwin, born Switzerland; age, 21; enlisted, Dec. 22, '63; assigned to Co. K, 9th Regt.; died of disease at David's Island, N. Y. Harbor, Sept. 8, '64.

102. Powers, James, born Maine; age, 25; enlisted, Oct. 14, '63; assigned to Co. D, 3rd Regt.; captured, June 16, '64, at Ware Bottom Church, Va.; exchanged, Dec., '64; discharged for disability, May 24, '65.

103. Rever, Joseph, born Canada; age, 22; enlisted, Dec. 24, '63, and assigned to Co. A, 9th Regt.; missing, Sept. 30, '64; gained from missing; transferred to Co. A, 6th Regt.; discharged to date July 17, '65.

104. Ridden, Thomas, born Canada; age, 25; enlisted, Oct. 14, '63; assigned to Co. D, 3rd Regt.; wounded, May 13, '64, Drury's Bluff; deserted, Nov. 17, '64, from hospital, Fortress Monroe, Va.

105. Ross, Peter, born Italy; age, 20; enlisted, Aug. 25, '64; Co. K, 9th Regt.; captured, Sept. 30, '64, at Poplar Springs Church, Va.; no further records.

106. Ruddy, Patrick, born Ireland, age 43, who had seen prior service in the 8th Inf., Regular Army, enlisted in Co. E, 13th Regt., Veteran Reserve Corps, Mar. 8, '64. He was transferred to 6th Independent Co., V. R. C., and discharged, Aug. 31, '66, at David's Island, New York.

107. Seabry, Frank. The town report for 1863 shows that this man was one of the fifty to whom the town paid \$200 each, but nothing can be found showing that he ever entered the service.

108. Sears, Dennis. Bristol paid a bounty of \$570 for this man, but there is nothing to show that he ever entered the service.

109. Spaulding, William, born Canada; age, 20; enlisted, Aug. 23, '64, and assigned to Co. G, 5th Regt.; was at battle of Farmville, Va., Apr. 7, '65, and missing after the fight; gained from missing and discharged, June 27, '65, at Philadelphia, Pa.

110. Stern, Paul, born Germany; age, 32; enlisted, Dec. 23, '63, in Co. E, 7th Regt.; deserted, Apr. 12, '64, at Jacksonville, Fla.

111. Sweney, Patrick, born New York; age, 23; enlisted,



Dec 23, '63; assigned at 9th Regt.; deserted, Jan. 6, '64, at Paris, Ky.

112. Swift, Joseph, age, 21; born, Ireland; enlisted, Aug. 11, '64, and sent Aug. 27 to 5th Regt.; no further records; supposed to have deserted while *en route* to regiment.

113. Sudelot, Corp. Henry, born Canada; age, 27; enlisted, Aug. 9, '64; assigned to Co. G, 5th Regt.; appointed corporal; mustered out, June 28, '65.

114. Toben, James, born Ireland; age, 32; enlisted, Aug. 6, '64; assigned Co. G, 5th Regt.; discharged for disability, Dec. 2, '64.

115. Travis, Sergt. Frank, born Scotland; age, 40; enlisted, Aug. 17, '64, and assigned to Co. G, 5th Regt.; appointed sergeant; missing, Farmville, Va., Apr. 7, '65; gained from missing and reduced to ranks, May 23, '65; reported on muster-out roll, June 12, '65, as absent without leave; no further record.

116. Trocha, Delphus, born France; age, 19; enlisted, Aug. 12, '64; assigned Co. G, 5th Regt.; deserted, Sept. 16, '64.

117. Waite, Charles, born Germany; age, 19; enlisted, Aug. 11, '63, and assigned to Co. D, 5th Regt.; transferred to Co. F, Nov. 20, '64; discharged, June 9, '65, at Washington.

118. Walker, George, born England; age, 28; enlisted, Aug. 5, '64; reported on roll dated Galloup's Island, Boston Harbor, Aug. 19, '64; sent to 14th Regt.; no further records; supposed to have deserted while *en route* to regiment.

119. Weare, Samuel, born Ireland; age, 28; enlisted, Oct. 29, '64, and assigned to 1st N. H. Light Battery; mustered out, June 9, '65.

120. Webster, James, born Dracut, Mass.; age, 36; enlisted, Oct. 14, '63; served in Co. D, 3rd Regt.; discharged for disability at Concord, Sept. 13, '64.

121. Welch, Patrick, born Ireland; age, 40; enlisted, Aug. 10, '64, and assigned to Co. I, 5th Regt.; deserted to the enemy near Petersburg, Va., Oct. 10, '64.

122. Welch, William, born Canada; age, 27; enlisted, Aug. 3, '64; reported on roll dated at Galloup's Island, Boston Harbor, Aug. 19, '64, and assigned to 14th Regt.; no further records; supposed to have deserted while *en route* to regiment.

NATIVES OF BRISTOL IN THE ARMY OR NAVY, BUT NOT ON  
THE QUOTA OF BRISTOL

1. Abbott, James M., Co. C, 1st Regt. Heavy Artillery, was 29 years old when he enlisted, Aug. 22, '64, for one year; credited to Pembroke; mustered out, June 15, '65.

2. Badger, Frank S., enlisted June 26, '61, in Co. E, 12th

Regt. Mass. Vols.; at the battle of Ball's Bluff, lost a finger; discharged for disability, Oct. 15, '62; at time of enlistment was an operative in Lowell. (See Gen.)

3. Ballou, Louisde L., enlisted from Alexandria, Aug. 12, '62, in Co. C, 12th Regt. He passed unscathed through the battles of Fredericksburg and Swift Creek, but at the battle of Drury's Bluff, Va., May 16, '64, he was struck by a minie ball which entered the neck at the right ear, and came out at the back of the neck, carrying away a part of the spine. The flow of blood was so profuse it was supposed that this alone would cause death in a few minutes. Capt. James W. Saunders, his company commander, bound a handkerchief about the wound, placed him in a reclining position against a stump and left him, unconscious and, as was supposed, at death's door. A little later, he was carried to the field hospital where Surgeon Hadley B. Fowler hastily dressed his wound. Two days later, he was sent to Hampton hospital, thence to Point of Rocks hospital, and the next day to Fortress Monroe. There he lay on one side for eight weeks without being moved. From Fortress Monroe, he was sent to the West Philadelphia hospital which had at that time ten thousand beds. From May to December this soldier could not raise his chin from his chest, and six months after the wound was received, three pieces of bone were removed from the spine. Jan. 23, 1865, he was transferred to Co. D, Veterans' Reserve Corps, and was discharged July 6, '65, at Brattleboro, Vt. Mr. Ballou is now living on the east side of the Pemigewasset, but all these years has been a great sufferer, nearly incapacitated from labor. (See Gen.)

4. Ballou, Lieut. Wayland, enlisted from Hill, Sept. 12, '61, in Co. H, 4th Regt. He reenlisted Feb. 18, '64; wounded, July 13, '64; appointed sergeant; discharged, Feb. 28, '65, to accept promotion; appointed second lieutenant Co. I, 6th Inf., U. S. Colored Troops, and mustered Feb. 9, '65, to date Nov. 19, '64; mustered out, Sept. 20, '65. (See Gen.)

5. Ballou, Weston, enlisted from Hill Sept. 10, '61, in Co. H, 4th Regt.; wounded, July 13, '64, near Petersburg, Va.; mustered out, Sept. 27, '64. (See Gen.)

6. Bean, Lieut. John H. S., enlisted Oct. 26, '61, as sergeant Co. D, 12th Regt. Me. Vols.; promoted to first lieutenant, 2nd La. Inf., Oct. 26, '62, by order Gen. Butler. (See Gen.)

7. Beede, John W., served four months in Co. F, 29th Ohio Inf., and was discharged for disability. He reenlisted for 100 days in Co. D, 155th Ohio Inf. (See Gen.)

8. Beede, Lieut. Moses W., was living in Ohio when the war broke out and, when the first call for troops was made, enlisted for ninety days and served in West Virginia. He reenlisted for three years in the 7th Ohio Cavalry, under John Brown, son of Osawatimie Brown, but was rejected. In '63,



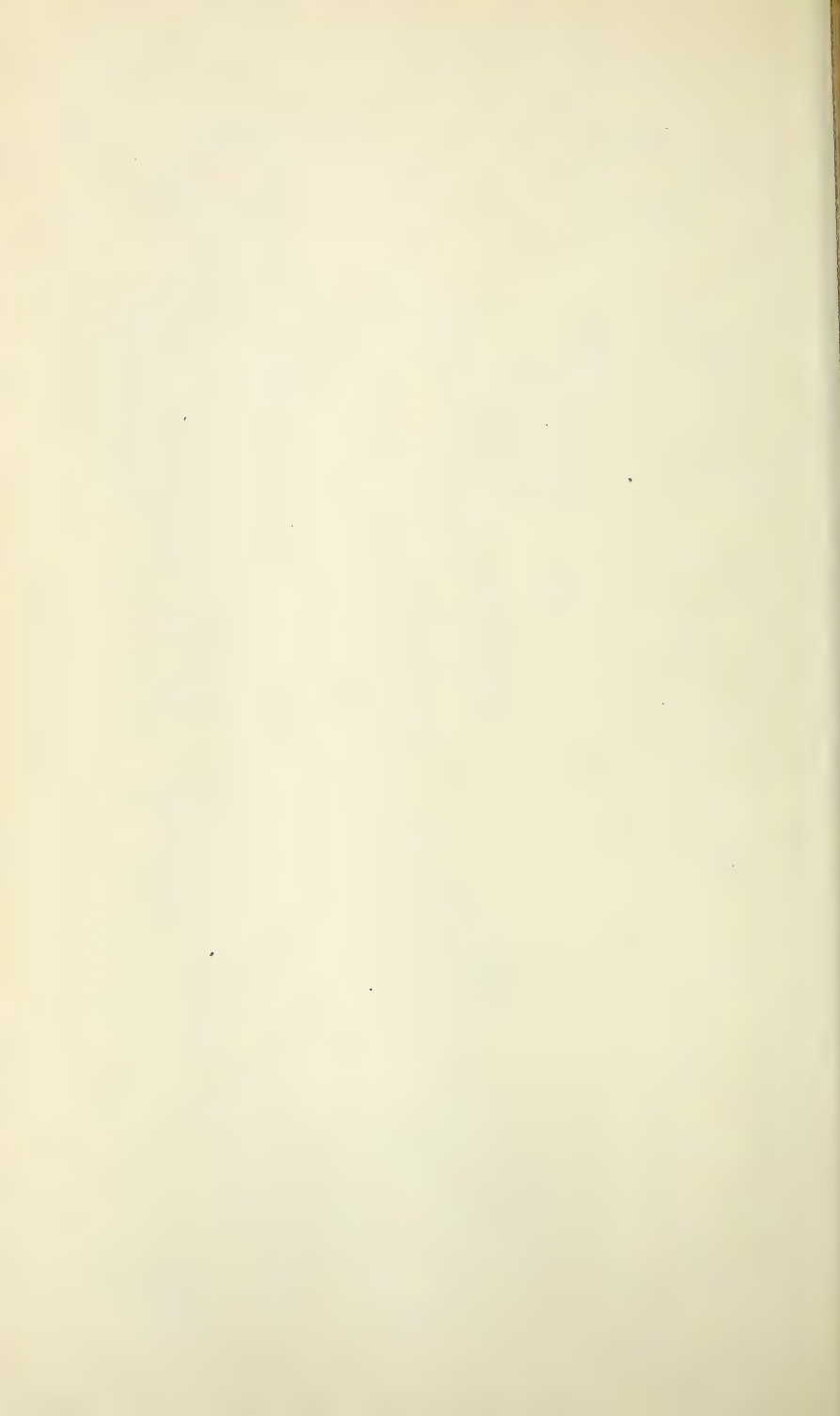
LOUISDE L. BALLOU



CAPT. DANIEL W. BOHONON



HARVEY W. DREW





he was commissioned first lieutenant in the Ohio state militia for five years, subject to the call of the President. (See Gen.)

9. Berry, Charles W., enlisted Dec. 29, '63, in the 11th Battery Mass. Light Artillery, and served till June 16, '65, when he was mustered out. (See Gen.)

10. Berry, George H., served in the navy; was stationed at Paris during the exposition, where he sustained a partial paralysis during the grip epidemic in that city. He died at the U. S. Naval Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa., June 5, '98. (See Gen.)

11. Blanchard, Henry A., age 21, enlisted Aug. 29, '62, in Co. C, 12th Regt., and was credited to Hebron, where he then resided; was in every engagement of his regiment except Gettysburg; wounded severely at Drury's Bluff, May 16, '64—bone of the left arm above the elbow shattered by a minie ball, so that several pieces of the bone came out before the wound healed. He was appointed corporal Apr. 28, '65; after the war, was for several years yard master for Old Colony railroad, Boston, Mass. In '71, he married Mary Wheeler, of Concord. He died in Charlestown in '89.

12. Bohonon, Capt. Daniel W., was residing in Grafton when he enlisted, Aug. 28, '62, in Co. C, 12th Regt.; was appointed corporal, Mar. 1, '63; sergeant, May 3, '63; wounded at Gettysburg, July 3, '63, a minie ball passing through his thigh; appointed first lieutenant, Co. H, Sept. 16, '64; captain Co. C, Apr. 12, '65; mustered out with his regiment, June 21, '65, and immediately mustered into the 2nd Regt., as captain, and served till Dec. 19, '65. His record was an exceptional one, he being in every engagement of his regiment. After the war, he was a government revenue officer at Richmond, Va., where he resided till his death, July 26, '80. (See Gen.)

13. Bowers, Charles W., was a resident of Franklin, and 23 years of age when he enlisted, Aug. 9, '62, in Co. B, 2nd Regt. He was discharged Apr. 11, '64, to reenlist. He reenlisted Apr. 18, for three years, and was appointed hospital steward same date; discharged, Apr. 17, '67, expiration of service at Louisville, Ky. (See Gen.)

14. Brown, Amos P. H., enlisted from Wilmot Oct. 21, '62, in Co. B, 16th Regt., for nine months, and was discharged Aug. 20, '63. (See Gen.)

15. Brown, Joseph, was 19 years old when he enlisted, Sept. 9, '62, in Co. B, 15th Regt. for nine months; served on the quota of Campton. He died at Campton, Aug. 11, '63, three days after reaching home on a furlough. (See Gen.)

16. Brown, Josiah, when 21 years of age enlisted, Sept. 11, '62, for nine months in Co. I, 15th Regt. He was credited to Rochester; deserted at Concord, Oct. 21, '62.

17. Brown, Stephen, served in 40th Mass. Vols., and died

in the service at Folly Island, S. C., in Nov. '63. (See Gen.)

18. Bryant, Charles P., was 18 years old when he enlisted, in Co. K, 1st Cavalry, Mar. 21, '65; credited to Springfield; discharged, July 15, '65.

19. Chase, George F., enlisted for nine months, Sept. 15, '62, in Co. A, 16th Regt., and served in the Dept. of the Gulf; discharged at New Orleans, La., July 10, '63, and died at his home in Lyme, Jan. 4, '64, of disease contracted in the service. (See Gen.)

20. Chase, Surgeon Henry M., while a student, enlisted for three months in Co. D, First Regt. Vt. Vols., and was mustered into service May 8, '61; detailed as hospital steward at Newport News, Va., in June '61; mustered out, Aug. 15, '61. He was appointed assistant surgeon in Navy, Dec. 12, '63, and assigned to temporary service at Navy Yard, Washington, D. C.; in Jan., '64, was ordered to Key West, Fla., and there assigned to U. S. Steamship "Honduras," of the gulf blockading squadron; early in '65, transferred to the U. S. Steamer "Nevens," a heavy man of war, doing transport duty West India Squadron; discharged, Aug. '65. (See Gen.)

21. Colby, Daniel F., age 27, enlisted from Manchester in Co. A, 3rd Regt., Aug. 10, '61. He died of disease at Hilton Head, S. C., Feb. 11, '62.

22. Colby, William W., of David City, Butler Co., Neb., enlisted Mar. 18, '64, in Co. I, 88th Ind. Vols.; transferred to Co. I, 38th Regt., June 7, '65; mustered out, July 15, '65.

23. Copp, Gustavus A., enlisted for one year, Sept. 1, '64, in Co. G, 1st Heavy Artillery, and was credited to Gilford. He was mustered out June 15, '65.

24. Corless, Geo. W., was a resident of Deerfield, and 23 years old when he enlisted, Dec. 11, '61, in Co. D, 8th Regt. He died of disease at Boston, Mass., Feb. 20, '62.

25. Dolloff, John E., while residing in Waterville, enlisted, July 2, '61, in Co. K, 16th Mass. Vols., and was discharged for disability Mar. 14, '62. He reenlisted from Laconia, July 13, '63, in Co. A, 1st Regt. Heavy Artillery; discharged at Fort Constitution, Portsmouth harbor, for disability, Jan. 17, '65.

26. Drew, Augustus B., enlisted from Bridgewater Aug. 18, '62, in Co. C, 12th Regt.; discharged for disability at Falmouth, Va., Apr. 16, '63, and died at his home, June 28, '63, of disease contracted in the army. (See Gen.)

27. Drew, Harvey W., brother of above, enlisted from Bridgewater Aug. 12, '62, in Co. C, 12th Regt.; he was at the battles of Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Petersburg, and Bermuda Hundred. At Gettysburg he served with the 4th N. J. Battery. He was mustered out with his regiment June 21, '65. Another brother served in same company and died at Falmouth, Va., of measles. (See Gen.)

28. Eaton, John M., M. D., served as surgeon of the 55th Regt. U. S. Vols. (See Gen.)

29. Eaton, George W., enlisted from Franklin, July 2, '62, in Co. B, 9th Regt. and deserted at Winchester, Ky., Apr. 18, '63. (See Gen.)

30. Emmons, Addison S., enlisted Nov. 19, '61, in Co. G, 8th Regt.; served on the quota of New Hampton; died of disease at New Orleans, La., July 8, '63. (See Gen.)

31. Emmons, Marcellus C., a brother of above, enlisted from New Hampton in Co. M, N. H. Battalion New England Cavalry, Oct. 21, '61; transferred to Co. K, same Regt., Jan. 1, '62; discharged for disability, at Washington, D. C., Oct. 7, '62, and reached Bristol on his way home, and here died at the home of his sister, Mrs. Cyrus M. Bennett. (See Gen.)

32. Emmons, Merrill, served on the quota of New Hampton, enlisting Nov. 19, '61, in Co. F, 8th Regt.; transferred to Co. G, Jan., '62. He died of disease at Carrollton, La., Aug. 14, '62. When enlisting, he gave his age as 42, probably to escape rejection. As he was born in '04, he must have been 58 years old. (See Gen.)

33. Flanders, George S., was residing in Alexandria when he enlisted, Sept. 2, '61, in Co. C, 4th Vt. Regt., and was credited to Vermont; age, 20. He was wounded June 30, '62, at White Oak Swamp, Va., and was discharged for disability, at Alexandria, Va., Feb. 10, '63.

34. Fogg, Charles M., enlisted at Ludington, Mich., in a Michigan regiment, and died in the service.

35. Fowler, Eugene A., was residing in Keene and 19 years old when he enlisted, July 15, '64, for 100 days in Co. H, 8th Mass. Vol. militia; mustered out, Nov. 10, '64.

36. French, Albert A. G., enlisted for nine months from Salisbury, Sept. 11, '62, in Co. E, 16th Regt., and died at White's Plantation, La., July 1, '63.

37. Gilman, William P., was not only a native but a resident of Bristol when he enlisted in Co. C, 1st Regt. Cavalry, Mar. 31, '64. He was credited to New Hampton; deserted from hospital in Philadelphia, Nov. 3, '64; apprehended; discharged for disability at Concord, June 14, '65.

38. Goodwin, William, age, 23; enlisted from Franconia, Oct. 11, '61, in Co. H, 8th Regt.; discharged for disability at New Orleans, La., Jan. 27, '63.

39. Gordon, Frank A., enlisted Aug. 25, '62, in Co. I, 6th Mass. Vols., for nine months; served in Army of the Potomac; mustered out, June 3, '63. (See Gen.)

40. Heath, George W., alias George Hall, enlisted from Alexandria, Aug. 23, '64; age, 34; served in Co. C, 11th Vt. Inf.; credited to Randolph, Vt.; captured, May 27, '65; paroled, May 30, '65; discharged, June 28, '65.

41. Heath, Henry A., was residing in New Hampton and 18 years old when he enlisted, Apr. 18, '61, for three months. There being no place for more three months' men, he reenlisted for three years, May 15, '61, and was in the state service till Sept. 30, '61, when he again enlisted, this time in Co. C, 7th Regt., and served till Sept. 29, '62, when he was discharged for disability. May 27, '63, he enlisted in the 1st Co. Heavy Artillery, and was mustered out Sept. 11, '65. (See Gen.)

42. Heath, Hiram T., was 23 years old and residing in Bridgewater when he enlisted, Aug. 18, '62, in Co. E, 12th Regt. on the quota of Bridgewater. He was wounded at Chancellorsville, May 3, '63, and Feb. 28, '64, transferred to 86th Co., 2nd Battalion, Veteran Reserve Corps, and discharged Aug. 14, '65, at Washington, D. C. (See Gen.)

43. Heath, Moses C., son of Nathaniel, was 32 years of age when he enlisted, Aug. 12, '62, from Concord, in Co. G, 5th Regt. He was wounded at Fredericksburg, Va., and again at Cold Harbor, and discharged May 31, '65.

44. Hoit, Corp. John B., age 22; enlisted, Apr. 25, '62, and served in Unattached Co., at Portsmouth, till Aug. 6, '62, when he was transferred to Co. E, 9th Regt.; appointed corporal; discharged, May 14, '65, at Alexandria, Va., by reason of expiration of term of service. He served on the quota of Manchester.

45. Howe, Sylvester D., enlisted May 8, '61; served three months on the quota of Ashland, as musician in Co. D, 1st Regt.; mustered out, Aug. 9, '61; Aug. 21, '61, enlisted in Co. F, 4th Regt., and served till Jan. 19, '62, when he was discharged for disability. Aug. 19, '62, he enlisted in Co. E, 12th Regt.; Jan. 20, '63, was detailed as nurse at the hospital of Third Division, Third Corps, at Falmouth, Va.; subsequently served in hospital at Potomac Creek and at Washington; July 3, '63, ordered to Portsmouth Grove, R. I., and transferred to the 18th Co. 2nd Battalion Invalid Corps, Dec. 12, '63; discharged for disability, Sept. 11, '65, at Albany N. Y., term expired. (See Gen.)

46. Hubbard, Jeremiah, was on the roll of Co. C, 12th Regt. as Jeremiah Hobart. He was a resident of New Hampton when he enlisted, Aug. 12, '62, and was credited to New Hampton; deserted in face of the enemy at Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 13, '62; apprehended, Apr. 28, '64; transferred to Co. E, 2nd Regt., June 21, '65; discharged, July 13, '65, at Concord. (See Gen.)

47. Hutchinson, Alexander, enlisted from Manchester, Aug. 8, '62, in Co. C, 11th Regt. He was wounded Dec. 13, '62, at Fredericksburg, Va., and was killed near Petersburg, Va. His father was in the Mexican war. (See Gen.)

48. Ingalls, Lieut. Charles W., was residing in Michigan at



the time of the war. In '63, he enlisted in Co. I, 27th Mich. Regt.; was promoted to second lieutenant, 1st Co. Sharp Shooters, same regiment; later to Co. K, 2nd Mich. Inf.; discharged, July 8, '64, for wounds received before Petersburg. Three sons served in Union army. Father and sons were each six feet in height.

49. Ingalls, Gustavus W., was residing in Concord when he enlisted, Aug. 1, '61, as musician in the 3rd Regt. He was leader of a band connected with this regiment till regimental bands were dispensed with, and he was discharged Aug. 31, '62. Jan. 6, '63, he enlisted as band leader and recruited a band that did service mainly at Hilton Head, S. C., and was known as the 2nd Brigade Band of the 10th Army Corps, otherwise as the Hilton Head Post Band. This band, under his leadership and instruction, attained a wide reputation for its fine music. He was mustered out July 4, '65. (See Gen.)

50. Ingalls, Hiram B., was 23 years old when he enlisted, Dec. 16, '64, from Franklin in Co. G, 18th Regt.; served till July 29, '65; supposed to be identical with Hiram B. Ingalls, who served in the band of 1st Mass. Inf., enlisting May 22, '61, and discharged July 27, '62.

51. Johnson, Jonathan H., age 16; enlisted from Deerfield, Sept. 13, '62, for nine months, in Co. D, 15th Regt.; appointed captain, Oct. 11, '62; discharged, Aug. 13, '63, expiration of term; died at Deerfield, Oct. 13, '63.

52. Kidder, Sergt. Daniel E., enlisted June 11, '61, in Co. A, 1st Neb. Vols.; enlisted as a veteran, Jan. 1, '64; died, June 17, '64, at Camp Girardeau, Mo. A son, Albert Edward, served in same company from July 15, '64, till July 10, '65, when he was discharged for disability. (See Gen.)

53. Kidder, James M., was drafted Mar. 23, '65, at Stewartstown for one year. He served in Co. K, 4th Regt., till Aug. 23, '65, when he was mustered out.

54. Kidder, Jonathan T., was a brother of Daniel E., and served in a Nebraska regiment.

55. Kendrick, John P., was the son of John Kendrick, and was born in Bristol, Sept. 8, '39. He enlisted in Co. I, 12th Regt., from Meredith, Aug. 15, '62; wounded at Chancellorsville, May 3, '63, and discharged for disability, Sept. 1, '63. "Register of New Hampshire Soldiers and Sailors" gives this name as McKendrick. A brother, George C., enlisted at 16 years of age, and was killed at the Battle of the Wilderness.

56. Ladd, David N., enlisted from Enfield, Oct. 7, '61, in Co. B, 6th Regt.; mustered as corporal; wounded, Sept. 1, '62, at Chantilly, Va.; discharged on account of wounds, Dec. 30, '62, at Newark, N. J.

57. Ladd, Leroy S., enlisted from Orange, Sept. 6, '61, in Co. I, 5th Regt.; was wounded at Peach Orchard, Va., June

29, '62; died of wounds, July 1, '62. He was a brother of David N. Ladd. (See Gen.)

58. Ladd, Luther C., was the first to fall in defence of his country in the War of the Rebellion. He was the son of John Ladd, and was born in Bristol, Dec. 22, 1843, on the John Ladd farm, south of Fowler's river, east of the highway, near the lake. He was named for Rev. Luther Crawford, a Freewill Baptist clergyman, a native of Alexandria. Luther C. Ladd continued to reside in Bristol till 1853, when his father removed to Alexandria. There he remained laboring on a farm and attending the district schools, till 1860, when he went to Lowell and obtained work in the Lowell Machine shop.

When President Lincoln issued his first call for 75,000 men in April, 1861, young Ladd enlisted for three months in Co. D, 6th Regt., Mass. Vols., which was the first to respond to the call. On the 19th of April, while passing through Baltimore, this regiment was attacked by a mob. Luther C. Ladd was the first to fall. He received a fracture of the skull, and while still moving forward, was struck by a bullet which severed an artery in the thigh. It is said that his dying words were "All hail the stars and stripes!" Addison O. Whitney, of Lowell, was also killed, and Merrill S. Wright of Lawrence died Apr. 27, of wounds then received.

The bodies of these three were returned north for interment. They arrived at the Worcester depot, in Boston, Wednesday, May 2, where an immense concourse had gathered. The Independent Cadets escorted the remains to King's Chapel, where they were placed in the tomb under the church. The governor and his staff were present, and the Boston Brigade band played a dirge.

The funeral of Ladd and Whitney was held at Lowell; that of Wright, at Lawrence. A special train conveyed the bodies to Lowell, where they were met at the station by a large escort, under the command of Capt. Proctor, and the municipal authorities, all under the command of Chief Marshal Sawtelle. Business was generally suspended. Exercises were held at Huntington hall, and this vast hall was densely packed and thousands were unable to gain admission. The relatives entered the hall first; the mayor and other distinguished men occupied seats on the platform. The caskets containing the deceased were enveloped in flags and rested under a magnificent canopy supported by four columns, surmounted by a gilt eagle. The exercises consisted of a dirge by the Lowell Brigade band, reading the Scriptures, prayer by Rev. Dr. Cleveland, anthem by St. Ann's choir, discourse by Rev. W. R. Clark, from Psalm 137: 5, 6.

The bodies were then placed in the receiving tomb. The next day the remains of Ladd were taken to Alexandria,



LUTHER C. LADD  
(The first man who fell in the Union Army)





escorted by W. L. North, president of the common council, and Alderman J. P. Folsom. The funeral the next day at Alexandria was attended by a vast concourse of people. "The Bristol Home Guards, under the command of Col. S. H. Rollins, and the Alexandria Phalanx, under the command of Capt. Sleeper, did escort duty. Darwin Forbes was marshal." Three salutes were fired over the grave. The remains were interred in the village cemetery, but afterward returned to Lowell, and they now rest under the Ladd and Whitney monument in that city. From the fact that young Ladd was a resident of Alexandria when he went to Lowell, Alexandria, instead of Bristol, has been named as his birthplace in the printed accounts of his death.

59. Merrill, John, enlisted July 22, '62, in New York city, for two years as seaman; served on U. S. Steamship "North Carolina"; no further records in the Navy Dept. (See Gen.)

60. Mitchell, John C., enlisted from Penacook Aug. 15, '61, in the band of the 3rd Regt.; mustered out at Hilton Head, S. C., Aug. 31, '62.

61. Nelson, Hiram, enlisted from Laconia Aug. 12, '62, in Co. G, 12th Regt., and was mustered out June 21, '65.

62. Page, Levi, enlisted from Bridgewater, Dec. 3, '61, in Co. C, 7th Regt., when 22 years old; died of disease, Mar. 21, '62, at Fort Jefferson, Fla.; was one of four brothers in the service. (See Gen.)

63. Prescott, Sergt. Frederick W., enlisted from New Hampton in Co. I, 1st Regt., Apr. 23, '61, for three months, and served till Aug. 9, following, when the regiment was mustered out. Sept. 26, '61, enlisted in Co. C, 7th Regt. He was wounded at Fort Wagner, S. C., July 18, '63; appointed sergeant; captured, Feb. 20, '64, at Olustee, Fla., and confined six months at Andersonville, Ga., and three months at Florence, S. C.; paroled at Charlestown, S. C., Dec. 6, '64; discharged at Concord, Mar. 28, '65. (See Gen.)

64. Prescott, Sergt. Horace M., served same term in the 1st Regt. as his brother Fred, above, and enlisted in Co. C, 7th Regt., Sept. 26, '61; was appointed sergeant, Nov. 15, '61; reduced to the ranks, July 4, '62, at his own request; convicted of forgery by general court martial; escaped from guard house and deserted Dec. 13, '62, at St. Augustine, Fla.; apprehended at New York city, June 3, '63, and delivered next day at Governor's Island; no further records in adjutant general's office. Relatives claim last letters received from him were dated Camp Parole, Richmond, where he was awaiting exchange. (See Gen.)

65. Robie, Corp. David P., age 21, enlisted from Thornton, Aug. 30, '62, in Co. C, 13th Regt.; appointed corporal, May 1, '65; mustered out, June 21, '65.

66. Rollins, Lyman, enlisted from Concord, Oct. 31, '61,

in Co. I, 6th Regt.; discharged, Jan. 3, '65, expiration of term of service. (See Gen.)

67. Sanborn, Joseph E., age 24, enlisted from Bridgewater, Aug. 18, '62, in Co. E, 12th Regt.; wounded at Chancellorsville, May 3, '63, and discharged for disability at Washington, D. C., Apr. 10, '64.

68. Sanborn, Carroll, enlisted from Concord July 24, '62, in Co. K, 9th Regt. He was wounded at Antietam, Md., Sept. 17, '62, and again at Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 13, '62, and was discharged for disability Apr. 27, '63, at Concord. (See Gen.)

69. Sleeper, George W., was a painter in Lowell, Mass., and 28 years of age when he enlisted in Co. G, 16th Mass. Regt., July 12, '61. He died June 25, '62, of wounds received at Fair Oaks (Adj. Gen. records). The remains were brought to Bristol, and, after an impressive service held at his boyhood home, were laid to rest in the burying-ground in Dist. No. 9. (See Gen.)

70. Sleeper, Sergt. Levi H., enlisted from Manchester Apr. 22, '61, in Co. I, 2nd Regt., for three months; not mustered; reenlisted, May 22, '61, for three years; mustered out, June 21, '64; enlisted, Aug. 20, '64, 1st Regt. Heavy Artillery, for one year; mustered in as corporal; appointed sergeant, May 1, '65; mustered out, June 15, '65. (See Gen.)

71. Sleeper, Solomon C., was an operative at Lowell, Mass., when he enlisted, Sept. 2, '61, in the 1st Mass. Sharp Shooters (15th Inf.) Independent Co., and participated in the battles of Chancellorsville, Fredericksburg, Antietam, Gettysburg, Bristoe, and front of Richmond; discharged for disability, Jan. 20, '64. (See Gen.)

72. Smith, Curtis, enlisted from Manchester for three months, Apr. 19, '61, in Co. K, 1st Regt., and was mustered out with the regiment, Aug. 9, '61. Oct. 2, '61, he enlisted in Co. D, 8th Regt., and was appointed corporal; wounded, May 27, '63, at Port Hudson, La., promoted sergeant, reenlisted and mustered in, Jan. 4, '64; transferred to Co. A, Veteran Battalion, 8th N. H. Vols., Jan. 1, '65; reduced to ranks, Aug. 21, '65; mustered out, Oct. 28, '65.

73. Swain, Elbridge L., age 33, enlisted from Chichester, Aug. 29, '62, in Co. E, 11th Regt.; died of disease, Mar. 17, '63, at Newport News, Va.

74. Tirrell, Moses D., age 34, enlisted from Holderness, Dec. 2, '61, in Co. A, 6th Regt.; after the battle of Bull Run, was reported missing; then gained from missing. He died on board hospital boat, "Tycoon" at Cannelton, Ind., Aug. 9, '63.

75. Truell, Zenas B., was a spinner in Lowell, Mass., when he enlisted, Aug. 21, '61, in the 20th Regt. Mass. Vol.

Sharp Shooters; killed at the Battle of the Wilderness, May 8, '64. (See Gen.)

76. Wallace, Lieut. Charles B., age 31, enlisted from Penacook in Co. B, 7th Regt., Oct. 28, '61; appointed corporal, Oct. 9, '62; sergeant, Nov. 28, '63; reenlisted, Feb. 29, '64; wounded, Oct. 1, '64, near Richmond; appointed first lieutenant, Dec. 22, '64; mustered out, July 20, '65.

77. Worthing, James H., enlisted at Sacramento, Cal., Sept. 20, '61, in Co. E, 5th Regt. Cal. Vol. Inf.; discharged at Mesila, New Mexico, Nov. 30, '64, expiration of service. After the war he went to Pinos Altos, New Mexico, where he was shot and killed by Apache Indians, May 18, '66. (See Gen.)

#### MILITIA SINCE THE CIVIL WAR

At the close of the Civil war, new militia laws were enacted in New Hampshire. Every able-bodied man, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, was enrolled, and an active volunteer militia force was organized. This force was limited to three regiments of thirteen companies each, aggregating two thousand men who were enlisted for a period of five years. The companies consisted of a captain, two lieutenants, four sergeants, four corporals, and forty privates.

In the spring of 1867, Capt. W. A. Beckford organized a company of the state militia in Bristol. It was designated the Head Rifles, Co. M, and was made a part of the First Regiment. In August, following, it was transferred to the Second Regiment. It had thirty-three rifles. Its armory was in the hall over the town hall. No order disbanding this company is on file in the office of the adjutant-general, but it evidently ceased to exist about Jan. 1, 1871.

Captains	Date of Com.	Discharged
William A. Beckford	May 9, 1867	
Frank A. Gordon	May 6, 1868	Dec. 31, 1870

First Lieutenants	
Horace L. Ingalls	May 9, 1867
Wayland Ballou	May 6, 1868
Natt. B. Moulton	Apr. 26, 1869

Second Lieutenants	
Webster Heath	May 9, 1867
Natt. B. Moulton	May 6, 1868
Geo. F. Prescott	Apr. 26, 1869
	Dec. 31, 1870

Apr. 13, 1888, a company of militia was organized in Bristol under the name of Train Rifles, through the efforts of Dr. C. W. Coolidge, David M. Calley, Orrin B. Ray, and others.

This company was assigned to the Third Regiment National Guard of the state. It had forty-eight men, rank and file. It had a fairly prosperous existence for a few years, when interest lagged and it was disbanded Feb. 9, 1897. In the summer of 1889, Capt. C. W. Coolidge and five of his non-commissioned officers and privates qualified themselves as sharp shooters and received all the badges, including a gold badge, offered by the state for the best records.

The following is a list of commissioned officers :

Captains	Date of Com.	Discharged
David M. Calley	Apr. 14, 1888	Feb. 12, 1889, Res.
Charles W. Coolidge	Apr. 12, 1889	Oct. 9, 1891, Res.
Orrin B. Ray	Oct. 21, 1891	May 29, 1897, Dis.

#### First Lieutenants

Charles W. Coolidge	Apr. 14, 1888	Apr. 12, 1889, Pro.
Orrin B. Ray	Apr. 12, 1889	Oct. 21, 1891, Pro.
Leonard S. Grey	Oct. 21, 1891	May 23, 1894, Res.
Arthur H. Morrill	May 31, 1895	July 6, 1896, Res.

#### Second Lieutenants

Orrin B. Ray	Apr. 14, 1888	Apr. 12, 1889, Pro.
Wesley H. Dicey	Apr. 12, 1889	Apr. 5, 1890, Res.
Leonard S. Grey	May 21, 1890	Oct. 21, 1891, Pro.
Alonzo D. Emery	Oct. 21, 1891	Mar. 20, 1893, Res.
Arthur H. Morrill	Apr. 24, 1893	May 31, 1895, Pro.
Elwood S. Lougee	May 31, 1895	July 6, 1896, Res.



## CHAPTER XX

### POLITICAL HISTORY

In politics if thou wouldst mix,  
And mean thy fortunes be;  
Bear this in mind — "Be deaf and blind;  
Let great folks hear and see."

—*Burns.*

At the close of the Revolutionary war, the attention of the people of the state became engrossed in the plan of government that should be adopted. In New Chester, a meeting was held at the house of Col. Peter Sleeper, Jan. 3, 1782, to "Lay the Plan of Government Before the town in order that the town may give their opinion upon it." This meeting was adjourned to meet at the same place one week later. That the people had opinions on the questions submitted and were not slow to express them, the records of the adjourned meeting fully show, as follows:

Met according to adjournment at the time and place and Proceeded as follows Firstly objected against the Qualifications of Electors wee think it reasonable that every Male Inhabitant of the age of twenty one years paying taxes ought to be Voters in all town meetings.

Secondly wee think that County Conventions in the choice of Representatives will be Productive of evil Consequences therefore think that a certain number of voters or inhabitants ought to have the Liberty of Electing a Representative

Thirdly wee think that the Soldiers of the Militia ought to have the Choice of their own officers.

The above was unanimously agreed to.

May 2, of the same year, another meeting was held to continue the consideration of the subject; but instead of expressing any opinion, Col. Thomas Crawford was appointed a committee to draw up objections to "the plan of Government and Give the Reasons and Make Return to the Convention and to Send the number For and against." Col. Crawford was a leader in thought and politics in the community, and it may have been largely through his influence that the voters were a unit on nearly every question submitted.

On the 17th of December, the voters of the town again came together in special meeting. We are not told what the report of Col. Crawford was, but it was

Voted not to Except the twenty third article in the Bill of Rights.

Voted not to Except of a Governor. Number of votes 17 on these points, none against it. John Smith was Chosen to go to the Convention in Behalf of the Town.

No further action was taken till the annual meeting in March, following, when, after the election of officers, the proposed plan of government again came up for action. The following is the record :

Eighthly. Voted to receive the Plan of Government with the following Exceptions

Against a Governor and Privy Council, 31.

Against the mode of paying Representatives, 31.

Against County Registers, but Town Clerks for that purpose, 31.

and that the People shall have the Choice of Electing their own Military and Civil officers, 31.

and that any Elector may be Elected as to Representative, 31, and that the Representatives Be Paid from the Common Stock, 31.

article 9th. Voted to Receive the Resolve of the Council and House of Representatives for this State that the Present Government Be continued in full Force till the tenth day of June, 1784, except the new Plan of Government take place.

The first vote for president <sup>1</sup> of New Hampshire was cast in March, 1784, when Meshech Weare was elected. In New Chester, Weare received twenty-seven votes, and Josiah Bartlett, Federalist, thirteen. In 1785, John Langdon, Republican, who was elected, received only one vote in New Chester, while Josiah Bartlett, Federalist, received thirty-six, and John Sullivan, Federalist, received nineteen. The next year, John Sullivan was elected president of the state but did not receive a vote in New Chester, while John Langdon was favored with every vote cast—forty. In 1787, thirty-two votes were cast for John Langdon, while Sullivan, who was reelected, received but two votes, and Josiah Bartlett was given ten.

In 1788, only twenty-two votes were cast in New Chester for president of the state. Of these, John Langdon, who was again elected, received twenty-one, and Josiah Bartlett, one. The new town of Bridgewater, which cast its first vote at this election, was equally unanimous, giving Langdon twenty-eight, and Samuel Livermore, one. This election was of special importance, from the fact that the constitutional convention, which had met at Exeter in February to act on the ratification of the constitution of the United States, had adjourned for four months after a session of ten days without action. Langdon was in favor of ratification, and his election indicated the sentiment of

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<sup>1</sup> Under the constitution of 1784 the chief executive of New Hampshire was called president. The constitution of 1792 changed the title to governor.

the state on this subject. Six states had ratified the constitution before the convention assembled; two more took similar action during its intermission, and the state had spoken in unmistakable terms in its election. The result was, when the convention reconvened it needed but three days for favorable action. Thus New Hampshire became the ninth state to ratify the Constitution of the United States and made that instrument of binding force. In this convention Col. Thomas Crawford represented New Chester, Bridgewater, Cockermouth, and Alexandria. His vote was in favor of ratification.

In 1789, during a hot political campaign for those days, when there were four candidates for president of the state in the field, the successful candidate, John Sullivan, Federalist, did not receive a vote in either New Chester or Bridgewater; John Pickering, also a Federalist, received seventy votes—every one cast in both towns. However hot the campaign, indifference was indicated here from the fact that not half the voters exercised the right of suffrage.

In 1790, Josiah Bartlett, Federalist, was the successful candidate for president, but he, like his predecessor, did not receive a vote in New Chester or Bridgewater. The combined vote of the two towns for John Pickering, also a Federalist, was thirty-nine, while the Republican vote was divided between Woodbury Langdon, who received six votes in New Chester, and Joshua Wentworth, who received five in Bridgewater.

On the 7th of May, 1792, a meeting was held in New Chester to take the sense of the voters of the town on the revision of the state constitution as proposed by the convention of 1791. Seventy-two amendments had been made, and these were acted on separately, two days being consumed in the work. The town gave a majority in favor of thirteen only, and was almost unanimous against all the others. In only eleven was there a division of sentiment; in all the others, the voters were unanimous one way or the other.

For three years commencing with 1791, Josiah Bartlett, Federalist, received all the votes cast in both New Chester and Bridgewater, as did John T. Gilman, Federalist, in 1794 and 1795. In 1796, a change came over the voters of both towns. In New Chester, though there were eight more votes cast than in 1795, John T. Gilman received only twenty-four, while Timothy Walker had thirteen, and Oliver Peabody twenty-four. In Bridgewater, Gilman received only one vote, while Timothy Walker had forty-two. What caused this stampede from the Federal to the Republican ranks does not appear; but the next year the tide set in favor of Gilman, and he received every vote except one in both towns. This unanimity continued for five years, the aggregate vote against him being only seven—all cast in Bridgewater. From 1802 till 1820, the vote of both New

Chester and Bridgewater was more evenly divided between the two great parties—the Republican, or Republican-Democratic party, as it was called, and the Federalists, though the Democrats were in the majority in New Chester, and the Federalists in Bridgewater. The Republican-Democratic party finally dropped the first part of its name and became known as the Democratic party.

In 1809, the protection of the American marine became a leading question in politics. The Federalists were opposed to any assertion of the rights of the United States that might lead to war with England. After the war came, sympathy with England was openly expressed in New England by the Federalists. Some even advocated withdrawal from the Union and an alliance with England, while British victories were celebrated in some places by bonfires. The vote this year was evenly divided in New Chester between Jeremiah Smith, the Federal candidate for governor, and John Langdon, the Democratic candidate, each receiving sixty-six. In Bridgewater, Jeremiah Smith received eighty-seven votes, a majority of four. Smith was elected governor. He served but one year, and in 1810, John Langdon, the Democratic candidate, was elected; and the state wheeled into line in the support of the administration in its war measures. This latter year, New Chester cast a majority of fourteen votes for Langdon; while Bridgewater gave a majority of twenty-one for Smith. In 1811, the same candidates were in the field for governor, and New Chester gave eighty-three votes for Langdon and sixty-eight for Smith; and Bridgewater changed its majority for Smith to a majority of thirty for Langdon.

In 1811, the annual town meeting in New Chester was held March 12, but adjourned till the next day when a representative was elected. This action was contrary to law, and the legislature declined to allow Jonathan Dickerson, who was elected, to take his seat. A bill was passed, however, allowing the town to call a special meeting by giving personal notice of the time and place of meeting, or leaving a notice in writing at the home of each voter "at any time previous to holding said meeting." This act passed June 11; the meeting was held June 13, and the next day Mr. Dickerson took his seat as a member of the house.

In 1812, the Democratic candidate, William Plumer, was elected governor. He received a majority of twenty-one votes in New Chester; but Bridgewater gave a majority of four for John T. Gilman, the candidate of the Federal party. This party was unable to survive its record during the war, and slowly died. From its ruins arose the Whig party.

The first vote in Bristol (1820) showed the town to be very strongly Democratic. Capt. James Minot was elected





HON. JAMES MINOT



representative. Samuel Bell received ninety-one of the ninety-nine votes cast for governor. The next year, Gov. Bell received eighty-six out of the ninety-one votes, and in 1822 the vote was about the same. In 1823, the opposition cast thirty-seven of the one hundred and twenty-three votes. Two years later, however, there were only four scattering votes, compared with one hundred and twelve for David L. Morrill, the Democratic candidate for governor, while, in 1827, Benjamin Pierce, Democrat, received all but one of the one hundred and eight votes cast. This was called the era of good feeling, when personal popularity had more weight than party ties. During the following twenty-five years, the Whigs were an active party in town. In 1828, Benjamin Pierce, the Democratic candidate for governor, received sixty-six votes, while the candidate of the Whigs, John Bell, received sixty. Nathaniel S. Berry, Democrat, made his entrance into politics this year, being elected representative. Party lines were not then drawn with such rigid exactness as now and the vote fluctuated from one party to another to a surprising degree. In 1832, Samuel Dinsmoor, Democrat, received seventy-four votes for governor in town, while his opponent, Ichabod Bartlett, Federalist, received eighty-five; at the next election, Mr. Dinsmoor received one hundred and eleven, while his opponent was favored with but eighteen. At the same time, there was hardly that courtesy among the leaders that exists today. The *Patriot* was accustomed to speak of James Wilson as the "Federal Nigger Whig candidate," while in other cases it used such endearing terms as "the Pig and Puppy" candidate.

In 1824, Moses H. Bradley, Esq., of Bristol, Democrat, represented his district in the New Hampshire senate, and Capt. James Minot, of Bristol, Democrat, was elected to the state senate in 1827. At this election Bristol cast one hundred and eleven votes, and of these Minot received all but one. In the district, 1,545 votes were cast, of which Minot received 1,392; the nominee of the opposing party had one hundred and fifty-one; scattering two. The next year, James Poole, of Hanover, was nominated and elected from this district, but died before the legislature assembled. In joint convention the legislature elected Mr. Minot to fill the vacancy; but he declined to accept on the ground that he did not care to fill a dead man's shoes.

In 1835, Nathaniel S. Berry, of Bristol, was elected senator from this district, and was reelected in 1836.

In 1840, the subject of slavery had become a disturbing element in politics. Whigs and Democrats were divided in sentiment, and from both these parties arose the Independent Democrats and the Liberty party. In the fall of 1840, occurred the presidential campaign when Harrison and Van Buren were the opposing candidates. This was known as the "hard cider campaign," and party spirit ran high.

In 1841, the Whigs polled in Bristol one hundred and eight votes; the Democrats, seventy-nine, and the Liberty party twenty-one. In 1842, however, with four parties in the field, the Whigs cast only sixty-six votes; the Democrats, seventy-four; the Liberty party, forty-four, and the Independent Democrats, thirty-two.

In 1844, the Democratic National convention in Baltimore took such a stand on the subject of slavery, that Nathaniel S. Berry, one of the delegates from New Hampshire, withdrew from the party and became one of the organizers of the Free Soil party in this state. This party held its first state convention at Concord in October, 1845, and Mr. Berry became its standard bearer for governor. The Liberty party also nominated him as its candidate; and at the election in Bristol in March, following, he was given ninety-four votes. Anthony Colby, the Whig candidate, received only sixty-eight votes, and Jared Williams, Democrat, had forty-two. The Liberty party did not hold another state convention, being absorbed by the new Free Soil party.

In 1844, all three parties, the Democrats, the Whigs, and the Liberty party, nominated selectmen in Bristol. The three selectmen were balloted for on one ticket. One hundred and ninety-nine votes were cast at the first ballot, and only one man was elected—Samuel C. Brown, Whig, for first selectman. On the second ballot there was no choice, and on the third, Walter Sleeper, Free Soiler, was elected. On the fourth ballot there was no choice, but on the next Daniel S. Mason, Whig, was chosen, he receiving ninety-six votes as compared with sixty-eight for Abbott Lovejoy, Democrat. Two ballots were required to elect a town clerk. Sherburn S. Merrill, Levi Bartlett, and Solomon Cavis were the three party candidates, and Levi Bartlett, Whig, was elected. Two days were required to do the work of this meeting.

In 1845, two ballots were required to elect a representative. On the first ballot, Samuel H. Stevens, Whig, had one hundred and two votes, and Sherburn S. Worthing, Democrat, had one hundred and three, and as there were seven scattering votes, there was no choice. At the next ballot, Worthing had one hundred and eight votes, and Stevens one hundred and ten; and the latter was elected. There was no choice on the first or second ballot for third selectman; but on the third, Reuben Rollins, Whig, was elected, receiving eighty-six votes. Jesse F. Kendall, Whig, received fifty-seven, and Stephen Nelson, Democrat, fourteen.

In 1847, the candidates for representative were John M. R. Emmons, Whig; Sherburn S. Merrill, Democrat, and Amos Brown, Whig. Mr. Brown was elected on the second ballot.

In 1847, Mr. Berry was again the standard bearer of the



Free Soil party in the state, and received in Bristol eighty-eight votes; Anthony Colby, the Whig candidate, received eighty-nine, and Jared W. Williams, the Democratic candidate, fifty; but, in 1848, the vote for Mr. Berry was one hundred and sixty-six; the Democratic vote was also increased somewhat, while the Whig vote nearly disappeared, being only six. In 1849, the Whigs rallied, and, although the Free Soil party presented the same candidates as the year before, the vote of the town was about evenly divided among the Whigs, Free Soilers, and Democrats, and so continued till 1854.

In 1849, a memorable town meeting was held. Three ballots were required to elect a town clerk. Hadley B. Fowler, Democrat, was elected, running largely ahead of his ticket. He received ninety-six votes as compared with fifty-eight for Jacob N. Darling, Whig, the next strongest candidate. For first selectman, the leading candidates were Abbott Lovejoy, Democrat; Walter Sleeper, Free Soiler, and John M. R. Emmons, Whig. After seven ballots, Walter Sleeper was declared elected, but he declined to serve. After two more ballots, John M. R. Emmons was elected. Two ballots were then taken for a second member of the board, and Gilman Ingalls, Jr., Whig, was elected. After two more ballots, Calvin Swett, Free Soiler, was declared elected third selectman. Two days were consumed in doing the town business this year.

In 1850, Samuel C. Brown, Whig, was elected first selectman on the first ballot, but it required three ballots to select a second member of the board, Calvin Swett, Free Soiler, securing the election. Joseph Kidder, Whig, was elected as the third member on the second ballot.

The campaign of 1851 was a peculiar one in this state, and marked with great bitterness. The Democrats put in nomination for governor John Atwood, who soon made himself obnoxious to the leaders of the party by utterances against slavery, for the pro-slavery element dominated the Democratic party at that time. Another convention was held; Mr. Atwood's name was stricken from the ticket, and the name of Samuel Dinsmoor, who had previously served five terms as governor, was placed at its head once more. The Free Soil party then nominated Mr. Atwood, and the Whigs nominated Thomas E. Sawyer. Mr. Sawyer received the largest vote in town—eighty-one, while Atwood was given seventy-four, and Dinsmoor, who was elected, received sixty-four. There were four leading candidates for representative in 1851. On the first ballot, Calvin Swett, Free Soiler, received twenty-six votes; Napoleon B. Bryant, Democrat, a young and promising lawyer who had just settled in Bristol, received thirty-nine; Gilman Ingalls, Jr., Whig, fifty-five; and Frederick Bartlett, Whig, ninety-seven; scattering, fourteen. On the second ballot, Mr. Bartlett was

elected. For twelve years previous to this town meeting, Samuel C. Brown, Whig, had served as moderator. Each year Col. Oscar F. Fowler was the nominee of the Democrats. At this meeting, the Whigs and Free Soilers had a new candidate, Mr. Brown having removed from town, and Col. Fowler was elected. Col. Fowler was a fine presiding officer, and party affiliations alone had prevented his election to this and other offices in the gift of his townsmen. Though he continued to be the nominee of his party for moderator he did not succeed in being again elected. In October, there was a special election for the choice of a delegate to the state constitutional convention that was to meet in Concord Nov. 6. There was no contest, and Frederick Bartlett was elected.

From 1845 till 1855, the active parties in town were the Democrats, the Whigs, and Free Soilers. In 1852, the Know Nothing party was organized in the state. The prejudices of the people were aroused against foreigners, and especially against Roman Catholics, and accessions to the party were rapid. It was a secret organization. Its members were bound with an oath, and governed with rigid rules. A penalty was imposed for even divulging the name of a member. The movement spread into all parts of the state, and, in 1854, Subordinate Council, No. 117, was organized in Bristol. In March, 1854, before the advent of this party in Bristol, the vote of the town was, for governor, Nathaniel B. Baker, Democratic candidate, eighty-nine; James Bell, Whig, thirty-five; Jared Perkins, Free Soiler, one hundred and nineteen; but at the next annual meeting the Know Nothings cast one hundred and sixty-two votes for Ralph Metcalf, who was elected governor; the Democrats polled seventy-nine, the Free Soilers six, and the Whigs eight. The Free Soil party did not again appear in town on a state ticket. The Whigs held together till the following year, when they, too, disappeared. The Know Nothing party had a brief existence of two years; and then appeared the Republican party, the successor of the three just named, which became the dominant party in town and has since maintained its supremacy. In 1857, it had a majority of seventy-five; its largest majority was in 1868, when it reached one hundred and thirty-five; its smallest was in 1874, when it was only thirteen. This small margin was partially accounted for by the large vote cast by the Prohibitionists, nearly their entire strength being drawn from the Republican ranks. Two years later, when the Prohibition vote had nearly disappeared and a strong man headed the Republican ticket, the majority again reached one hundred. In 1878, it was one hundred and seven; in 1886, only twenty-four; but, in 1894, it again reached one hundred and two, and in 1900, it was one hundred and thirty-one.

Previous to the coming of the Know Nothing party, in

1855, the Whigs and Free Soilers generally united against the Democrats in the election of representative and town officers, no party being strong enough to elect without the assistance of one of the others.

Previous to 1851, each person elected representative was accorded two terms. That year, Frederick Bartlett was elected a member of the state constitutional convention and also a member of the house. This was considered as equal to two terms in the house, and he was not renominated in 1852. Calvin Swett was nominated by the Free Soilers for representative, and received thirty-five votes; Napoleon B. Bryant was again nominated by the Democrats and received sixty-seven votes, while Gilman Ingalls, Jr., was nominated by the Whigs and was elected, receiving one hundred and thirty-six votes. For the election of selectmen six ballots were required, two for each, resulting in the election of Calvin Swett, Free Soiler; Daniel B. Bartlett, Democrat, and Daniel S. Mason, Whig.

In 1853, Gilman Ingalls, Jr., was renominated by the Whigs for representative, and, according to precedent, should have been accorded a reelection; but the Free Soilers nominated Calvin Swett, and the Democrats put in nomination Walter R. Hayward. On the first ballot, Swett received fifty-one votes; Hayward, eighty-five, and Ingalls, ninety-six; and there was no choice. As voting proceeded during the day, Ingalls and Hayward made gains and the other lost. At the eighth ballot, the vote stood as follows: Calvin Swett, twenty-two; Walter R. Hayward, one hundred and thirteen; Gilman Ingalls, Jr., one hundred and fourteen; and there was no choice. A vote was then secured, one hundred and twenty-three to one hundred and seven, not to elect, and so Bristol was not represented in the General Court that year. This contest naturally extended to the election of town officers. It required two ballots to elect a town clerk, when George M. Cavis, the Democratic candidate, was elected over David P. Prescott and Sherburn Wells. For first selectman, the voting commenced with four candidates, Calvin Swett, John M. R. Emmons, Daniel S. Mason, and Daniel B. Bartlett. Five ballots were taken; but, at the last, the persons balloted for had narrowed down to two, Daniel S. Mason and Daniel B. Bartlett; and the latter was elected. Calvin Swett was then elected on the first ballot second selectman; and Frederick Bartlett was elected on the third ballot for the third place on the board.

In 1854, the Democrats renominated Walter R. Hayward for representative, and all other parties united in the support of Warren White, who was elected. For selectmen, seven ballots were necessary. Calvin Swett, Daniel S. Mason, and John M. R. Emmons were elected. The next year, Mr. White was reelected for representative. George W. Dow was the Democratic candidate.



In 1856, three candidates were again in the field for representative, John M. R. Emmons receiving twenty-one votes from the Whigs; Walter R. Hayward, seventy-one from the Democrats, and Calvin Swett, one hundred and twenty-nine from the Free Soilers. Mr. Swett was elected. The members of the Know Nothing party, who voted for governor that year for the first time, appear to have acted with their old parties in the election of representative and town officers, and old party organizations in local politics were not abandoned till three years later. In 1857, two new names appeared among the nominees for representative, Hadley B. Fowler, who was brought forward by the Democrats, and received seventy-six votes, and Joseph F. Rollins, who was supported by twenty-one Whigs. Calvin Swett was renominated by the Free Soilers and reelected, receiving one hundred and twelve votes. This year occurred the memorable Fremont and Buchanan campaign. These were the days of "bleeding Kansas" and the discussion of the question of slavery was the all-absorbing one of the campaign, and party spirit ran high. For the first time in the history of the town, a uniformed political company was organized. At the polls in November, the Democrats cast eighty-one votes; the Republicans, one hundred and sixty-four.

In the presidential campaign of 1860, the "Wide Awake" companies were organized by the Republicans, and torchlight parades were common, hardly a night passing that did not witness a demonstration in Bristol or in some other place in which the Bristol companies took part. On such occasions, houses were illuminated and fireworks discharged according to the means or enthusiasm of the participants. In this campaign, Abraham Lincoln had been nominated by the Republicans. The Democratic convention at Charleston, S. C., had split on the question of slavery. The northern wing had placed Stephen A. Douglass in nomination, and the southern wing, John C. Breckenridge, while another party organization, styling itself the Constitutional Union party, had met at Baltimore and nominated John Bell, of Tennessee. Thus there were four presidential candidates in the field. The Bell and Breckenridge parties drew most of their strength from the South, while Douglass was largely supported in the North by the old line Democrats, leaving Lincoln the united support of the Republicans. In Bristol, Lincoln received one hundred and sixty-one votes; Douglass, sixty-two; Breckenridge, five, and Bell, three. The presidential campaigns that followed, notably those of 1868 and 1888, were marked by the same enthusiasm as those mentioned, including the organization of uniformed companies, by both parties, flag raisings, political rallies, torchlight processions, and illuminations, with occasional oyster suppers.

In 1858, took place one of the hottest political fights in



Bristol. Joseph F. Rollins was an aspirant for the honor of representing his town in the legislature; but in 1857, instead of aiding in the election of Calvin Swett, who was entitled under party usage to two terms, he accepted a nomination from his party, and his friends supported him. The consequence was that this year, when Mr. Rollins was again nominated by the Whigs, and when the natural course would have been for the Free Soilers to have acceded to this nomination, they nominated Silas S. Brown, instead. Hadley B. Fowler was nominated by the Democrats. The first vote was, scattering, nine; Joseph F. Rollins, sixty-one; Hadley B. Fowler, seventy-nine; Silas S. Brown, ninety-one; and there was no choice. Seven ballots were taken, and then the meeting adjourned till the next day. The contest was renewed Wednesday, and the eighth ballot showed that there had been hardly the change of a vote from the first, and the town voted to postpone, indefinitely, the election of a representative. Personal feeling had become so aroused by this contest that it was reflected in the election of selectmen that followed. The first vote for first selectman stood, scattering, three; Levi Bartlett, thirteen; James T. Sanborn, sixty-one; Levi Locke, sixty-two; Joseph S. Chase, Democrat, seventy-seven, and there was no choice. On the fourth ballot, Frederick Bartlett's name was used, and he was elected. On the second ballot for second selectman, Walter R. Hayward was elected; and Joseph Kidder was chosen on the first ballot for third member of the board.

In 1859, the contest was renewed. Joseph F. Rollins was renominated by the Whigs, and Lewis W. Fling was nominated by the Democrats. Philip C. Bean, Favor Locke, and John M. R. Emmons were also in the field, but from what party or clique does not appear. On the first ballot, six persons had one vote each; Emmons had three; Bean, forty-three; Locke, thirty-eight; Rollins, sixty-six, and Fling, eighty. As voting progressed, Mr. Bean and Mr. Locke dropped out of the race. After six ballots had been taken, it was announced that if Mr. Rollins was given one term he would not seek a reelection. The seventh ballot stood as follows: Charles Wells, one; Emmons, thirty-one; Fling, seventy-eight; Rollins, one hundred and twenty; and Mr. Rollins was elected.

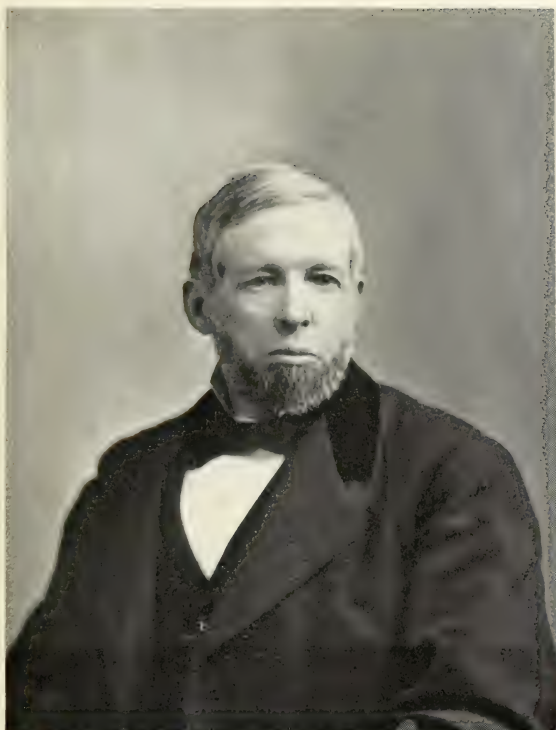
In 1860, the Democrats renominated Mr. Fling for representative. The Republicans placed in nomination Frederick Bartlett and he was elected, and reelected in 1861. For first selectman, there were four candidates. On the first ballot, John M. R. Emmons, Republican, had thirteen votes; Joseph Kidder, Republican, thirty-three; George W. Dow, Democrat, sixty-eight; Levi Bartlett, Republican, eighty-eight. Mr. Bartlett was elected on the second ballot.

In 1861, Nathaniel S. Berry, the nominee of the Republican

party, was elected governor. He received one hundred and fifty-one votes in Bristol, as compared with eighty-four given George Stark, the Democratic candidate. In the discharge of the duties of his office, Mr. Berry was unswerving in what he thought was right. Some of the leaders of the party did not find him to their liking, and sought to prevent his renomination. This effort not succeeding, they secured the nomination of Paul J. Wheeler, a war Democrat, hoping thus to prevent Mr. Berry's reelection. Not a vote was given in Bristol for this third party candidate, and he received a light vote in the state. Mr. Berry was reelected by the people. His services covered two of the most important years of the Civil war, and his administration was an honor to the state. The people of Bristol were especially interested in his success, from the fact that he was for so many years an esteemed and honored citizen of the town. That year, the Democrats nominated George W. Dow, Nicholas T. Chase, and Nathan B. Buttrick for selectmen; and the Republicans put in nomination Levi Bartlett, John Hastings, and Philip S. Drake. On the fourth ballot, Mr. Bartlett was elected first member of the board, and John Hastings and Philip S. Drake were elected second and third members, respectively. After this, local politics ran smoothly for a few years.

In the campaign of 1869, Alfred A. Cox, of Enfield, and Cyrus Taylor, of Bristol, were aspirants for the Republican nomination for senator from this district. Mr. Cox received the nomination, and Prof. Edward D. Sanborn, of Dartmouth College, was nominated by the Democrats. The district was largely Republican, but on account of objections to the Republican candidate, and the manner in which the nomination was secured, many Republicans voted for Prof. Sanborn, and he was elected. After his election, it was discovered that he could not fill the office of senator and be a professor in Dartmouth college at the same time, therefore he declined to qualify as senator. Eleven votes had been cast for Cyrus Taylor, thus making him a constitutional candidate, and he was elected senator by the joint convention over Mr. Cox, who had received at the regular election 2,361 votes. The following year, Mr. Taylor was reelected by the people.

In 1870, when Cyrus Taylor was nominated by the Republicans for senator, the Democrats put in nomination Lewis W. Fling, also of Bristol, for the same office. Mr. Taylor was an extensive merchant, Mr. Fling a prominent lawyer, and both were widely and favorably known. There was naturally much rivalry among the friends of each to make inroads into the ranks of the other, but without success, as each drew only the party vote in town. In 1871, a new man was nominated for senator by the Republicans, and Mr. Fling was renominated by the Democrats. This year, Mr. Fling drew nineteen votes from the



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Republicans of Bristol, and so close was the district that these votes elected him to the senate. In 1872, Mr. Fling was renominated, and reelected by a majority of thirty-one in the district. Of this majority, twenty-three were from his Republican friends in Bristol.

In 1870, the Prohibition party put in nomination for governor the Rev. Lorenzo D. Barrows, D.D. Dr. Barrows was well and favorably known here, and drew thirty votes. In 1872, the labor ticket came into the field, but did not receive a vote in Bristol, while the Prohibitionists cast twelve. This year occurred, also, the memorable Greeley presidential campaign, when Horace Greeley was nominated by the Liberal Republicans and Democrats for President. The Republicans of Bristol were not attracted by this device, and not a Republican vote was cast in town for the Greeley ticket.

In 1870, there was a warm contest over the election of selectmen. The Prohibition party had now become a disturbing element in local politics. Reuben B. Locke was put forward by this party as a candidate for first selectman, and received twenty-nine votes. George T. Crawford, Democrat, received one hundred and eleven votes, and Daniel S. Mason, Republican, one hundred and twenty-two. On the fifth ballot, Mr. Mason was elected. After three more ballots, Mr. Crawford was elected as second member of the board, receiving one hundred and forty votes. The other candidates were Milo Fellows, Prohibitionist, who received nineteen votes, and Richard S. Danforth, Republican, who received one hundred and eighteen. For third place, Charles N. Drake, Republican, was elected. Until this year, Mr. Locke had been an old line Democrat, but he had now identified himself with the Prohibitionists. This year, the Democrats nominated him for representative, hoping the Prohibitionists would do the same, but they nominated him for selectman, as seen above. For selectman, he drew only the strength of the Prohibition party, and for representative only the strength of the Democratic party. Samuel D. Farrar was nominated for representative by the Prohibitionists and received forty votes.

In 1871, Mr. Locke was renominated by the Democrats for representative, and David Mason was nominated by the Republicans, and was elected. William A. Berry, Republican, was elected first selectman, and the other members of the board were George T. Crawford and Charles N. Drake. In 1872, the Democrats made an effort to continue the program of the last two years, by electing Mr. Crawford to the second place. They made no nomination for first place and Mr. Berry received all but seven of the one hundred and sixty-one votes cast. For the second place, the Democrats made a supreme effort to reelect Mr. Crawford, and the Republicans were as determined to elect their candidate.

The result was Mr. Crawford received one hundred and forty-seven votes, and Jeremiah A. Haynes, Republican, one hundred and sixty-seven; and Mr. Haynes was elected. Mr. Crawford was then put in the race for the third place, and received one hundred and fifty votes; but Robert S. Hastings, Republican, received one hundred and seventy-five, and was elected. Mr. Crawford made a capable selectman, and nothing but a partisan spirit prevented his reelection.

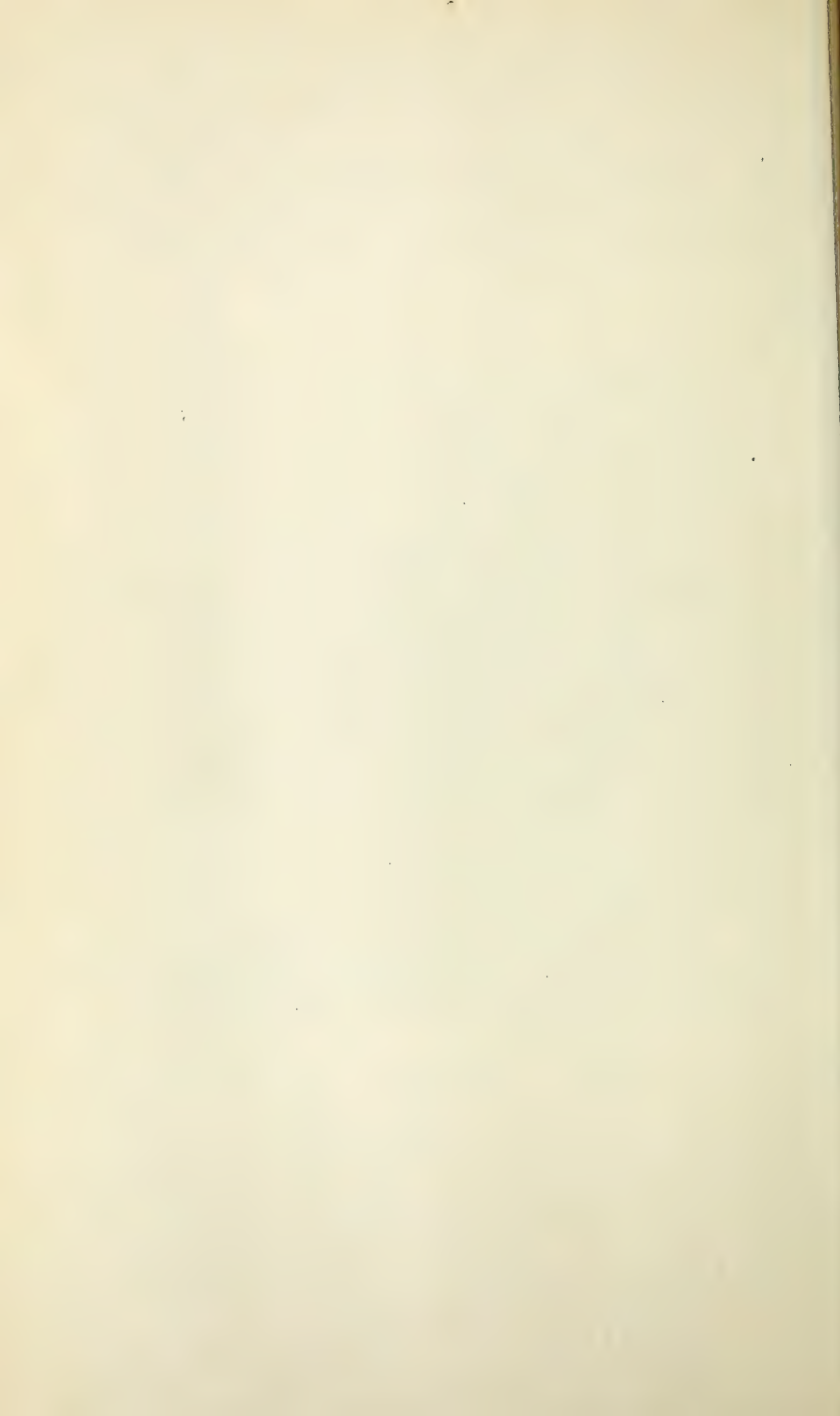
In 1871, the Republicans put in nomination the Rev. James Pike for governor. Mr. Pike had made a creditable record as representative in Washington from this state, and served honorably as colonel of the 16th Regiment New Hampshire Volunteers, in the Civil war; but his nomination was not acceptable to some of the leaders of the party, and from lack of zeal on their part there was no choice by the people. His competitor, James A. Weston, was chosen by the legislature.

In 1873, the Liberal party of the state nominated Hon. Samuel K. Mason, of Bristol, for governor; but the movement was not popular, and he drew only seventeen votes here. The Prohibition candidate received twenty votes; the Democratic candidate, one hundred and eleven, and the Republican ticket, one hundred and eighty-seven. Ezekiel A. Straw, the Republican candidate, was elected governor this year. In 1874, the Liberal Republican vote disappeared, being absorbed by the Democrats. The Prohibition party in town cast forty-nine votes, the largest number cast in any town or ward in the state. Luther McCutchins, the Republican candidate, drew two hundred and four votes; James A. Weston, Democrat, one hundred and forty-two. Mr. Weston was elected governor. In April, 1874, Rev. George W. Norris, who held the Prohibition party together in Bristol, and who was one of the leaders in the state, removed from town, and the party dwindled to one-half its former strength. In 1876, it cast but three votes. In 1877, the parties voting in Bristol were again narrowed to the Republican party, which cast two hundred and forty-six votes, and the Democratic party which polled one hundred and forty-four; but the next year the Greenback party appeared, and four broke their party ties to vote this ticket. The next year, only two voted the ticket, and, in 1879, all the votes cast were for the Democratic or Republican ticket, though the Greenback and Prohibition parties still had candidates in the field for governor.

In 1872, Bristol was entitled for the first time to send two representatives. David Mason, Republican, was elected for the first member, it being his second term, and David Calley, Republican, as the second member, it being his first term. In 1873, David Calley was nominated for first place and was elected, and Edwin S. Foster was nominated by the Republicans for second place. The agitation of the temperance question in



GEORGE T. CRAWFORD





New Hampshire by the Prohibition party, had created a sensitiveness on the subject in politics never before known, and many of the Republicans of Bristol declined to support Mr. Foster because he was a druggist. Samuel D. Farrar was nominated for representative by the Prohibitionists and drew a part of the disaffected Republican vote. Others, who would not vote outside the Republican party, supported Daniel S. Mason. The first vote for second representative was: Daniel S. Mason, twenty-five; Samuel D. Farrar, forty-five; Lorenzo D. Day, Democrat, one hundred and two; Edwin S. Foster, one hundred and twenty-six. Mr. Foster lacked twenty-four of a majority. The second vote failed to change the situation materially and a vote was secured to pass the article, and Bristol had but one representative that year.

In 1874, Mr. Foster was renominated. The same conditions existed as the year before. On the first ballot, Mr. Mason received forty-one votes; Dr. J. M. Bishop, the Prohibition nominee, sixty-four; Lorenzo D. Day, one hundred and twenty-eight; Mr. Foster, one hundred and forty-two, and therefore Mr. Foster lacked forty-six of an election. Another ballot was taken without a choice, and then the meeting voted not to elect, and the town had no representative that year. The result of this contest was reflected in the election of town officers. Charles H. Day, Democrat, was elected town clerk on the third ballot over Richard W. Musgrove, Republican. For first selectman, Ebenezer K. Pray was elected on first ballot, and Caleb L. Clay, Democrat, was elected second selectman over Seth Cass, Republican. Mr. Cass was then put in the race for third place, against George M. Wooster, Democrat, and Milo Fellows, Prohibitionist. The first ballot was: Cass, one hundred and thirty-two; Wooster, one hundred and fifty; Fellows, forty-seven. Seven ballots were taken with but little change in the situation, when the meeting was adjourned till the next day. Then the Democrats substituted the name of James H. Brown for that of Wooster, and after two more ballots Mr. Brown was elected. Mr. Brown was a Republican and had served on the board the year previous, but had failed of a renomination. Party discipline was very apparent in the fact that on the second day not a vote was cast for Mr. Wooster.

In 1875, new candidates were selected by the Republicans for representatives, with the result that David Mason and Philip S. Drake were elected. The Democratic nominees were Oscar F. Morse and George W. Sumner. In 1876, Mr. Drake was nominated for first member and Marshall W. White for second member by the Republicans, and the Democrats renominated Mr. Morse. Mr. White declined the nomination and Mr. Foster was again put in the race. The result was that Mr. Drake and Mr. Foster were elected. Mr. Foster was reelected in 1877, and

made a creditable record. Calvin H. Mudgett, Republican, was elected the second member from Bristol over Lucius W. Hammond, nominated by the Democrats.

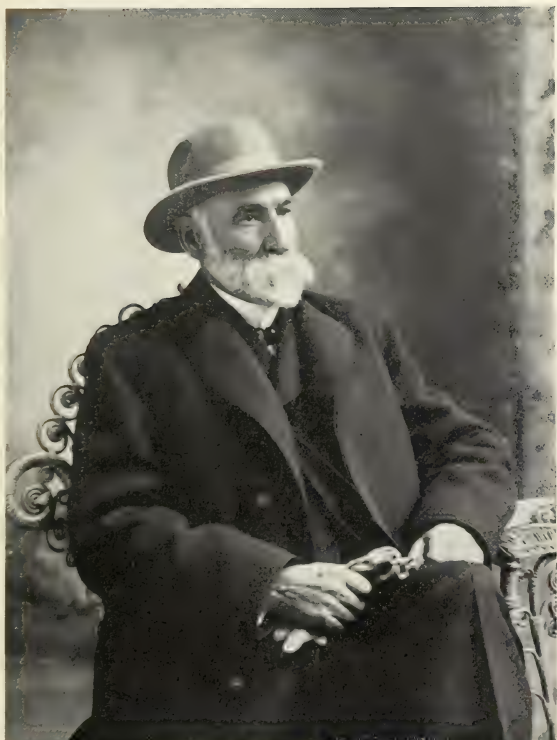
At the November election in 1876, Marshall W. White and William A. Beckford were elected members of the state constitutional convention which was to meet at Concord, Dec. 6, of that year.

In 1878, the members of the House from Bristol were Mr. Mudgett and Marshall W. White.

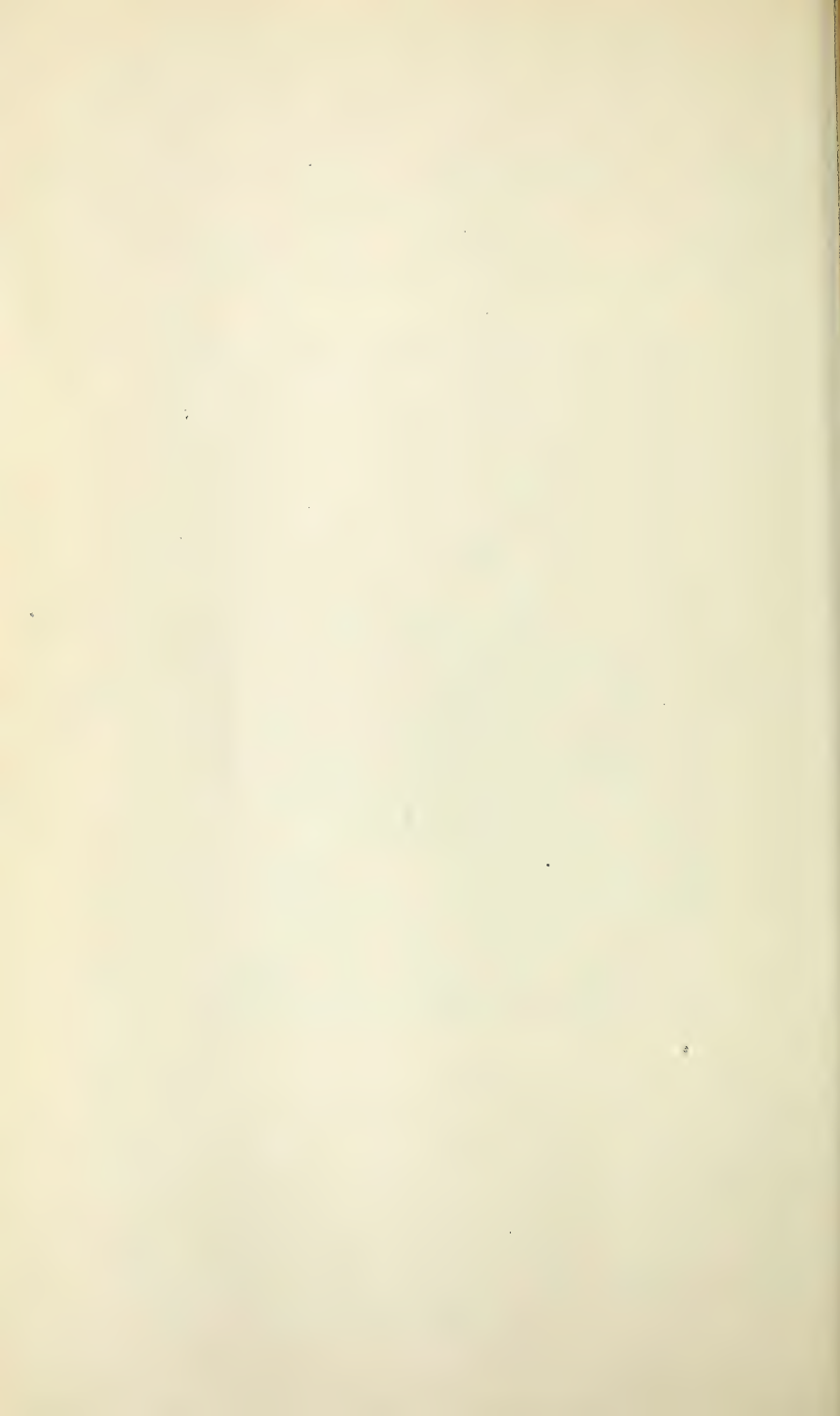
The constitution of 1878 made the state elections and sessions of the legislature biennial instead of annual as before, and so reduced the membership of the house that Bristol was entitled to but one member. The first election under this constitution took place in November, 1878. Up to this time, it had been the custom to send representatives two terms. Marshall W. White had served one term in the house and had had a seat in the constitutional convention, and was now renominated for representative. His election was opposed by some on the ground that his term in the convention should count as one term in the house, and that the policy of the party under the biennial elections was ordinarily to give a man but one term in the house. On election day, those opposed to Mr. White's election succeeded in preventing a choice. After balloting six times without avail, Mr. White withdrew in favor of Benjamin F. Holden, who was elected.

In 1880, Capt. William A. Beckford was nominated by the Republicans for representative. Some, opposed to his nomination, brought forward Abner Fowler as an opposition candidate. The result on the first ballot was, Abner Fowler, thirty-two; George M. Cavis, Democrat, one hundred and thirty-nine; Capt. Beckford, one hundred and sixty-four; and there was no choice. On the third ballot, Capt. Beckford was elected.

Appearances then indicated a calm in local politics; but in the fall of 1882 there came a storm of no small proportions. Albert Blake, Jr., Republican, had been appointed postmaster in 1875, and was holding that office in May, 1882. This was before the days of civil service reform, and instead of its being a breach of the rules of the department to engage in active partisan work, the more active the postmaster was in such work the firmer was the grasp with which he held the office. Mr. Blake did not measure up to the standard in partisan work, and the consequence was, Hon. Ossian Ray, the member of congress from this district, requested his removal and the appointment of John H. Brown in his place, which was done. Mr. Blake and his friends were highly indignant. Mr. Ray, perhaps seeing, when too late, that he had made a mistake, and hoping that the patrons of the office would justify him in his action, suggested an expression of opinion in a Republican caucus. The caucus



HON. BENJAMIN F. PERKINS





was held June 6, 1882, but the friends of Mr. Blake refrained from voting, and of the eighty-six votes cast, Mr. Brown received all but two. Mr. Brown assumed the duties of the office and matters drifted till the time for the fall election that year drew near, when it became evident that Richard W. Musgrove would be the nominee of the Republicans for representative. A few days before the nominating caucus, the friends of Mr. Blake took council together and then went to work with the cry, "Mr. Blake or nobody." Capt. Musgrove was nominated, and the contest was carried into town meeting. The Democrats put in nomination Charles H. Proctor, who, like Capt. Musgrove, was a veteran of the Civil war. The first ballot stood: Albert Blake, seventy-three; Charles H. Proctor, one hundred and thirty-five; Richard W. Musgrove, one hundred and forty-five; and there was no choice. Voting continued with intense interest, and above the din of three hundred and fifty excited men could frequently be heard the cry of Mr. Blake, "Hang! Hang!" On the eighth ballot, the declaration was, scattering, three; Blake, forty-nine; Proctor, one hundred and twenty-eight; Musgrove, one hundred and twenty-seven. Fifty-five less had voted than on the first ballot. At this point, a motion was made to pass the article without further action. On this the yeas and nays were demanded. One hundred and fifty voted in the affirmative, and one hundred and forty-one in the negative. The motion carried, and Bristol was unrepresented in the legislature of 1883. During the next two years, Mr. Ray succeeded in finding a place for Mr. Blake as railway mail clerk, and, civil service rules coming into operation soon after, Mr. Blake is still occupying a good position under the government. At the election in the fall of 1884, Capt. Musgrove was elected representative.

At the fall election in 1882, Benjamin F. Perkins of Bristol was elected a member of the state senate from District No. 4.

In March, 1886, John H. Brown, Republican, was elected chairman of the board of selectmen, to succeed John R. Connor, Republican; and Homer Roby, Democrat, succeeded Fred W. Bingham, Republican. Mr. Bingham had served one term and was renominated by his party for reelection, and, as a Democrat could not be elected except by the aid of Republican votes, the friends of Mr. Bingham charged his defeat to the Republican party. Mr. Connor desired to represent his town in the legislature, and at the caucus of his party in the fall of that year was a candidate for this office. Rev. George J. Judkins was nominated, but the disaffected friends of the two named above ran Mr. Connor as an independent candidate. The first ballot was as follows: George J. Judkins, one hundred and sixty-three; Charles H. Proctor, Democrat, one hundred and forty-three; John R. Connor, forty-six; Fred H. Briggs, Prohibitionist, seven; scatter-

ing, five. Three more ballots were taken without a choice, when Mr. Judkins and Mr. Connor both withdrew in favor of Dr. George H. Calley, who was elected.

In 1887, the Democrats refrained from voting for first and second selectmen, and for both places two Republicans were in the field; for first place, Simeon H. Cross, who received ninety votes, and John H. Brown, who received one hundred and thirty, and was elected; for the second place, George A. Emerson received one hundred and sixteen votes, and Simeon H. Cross, one hundred and nineteen. Homer Roby, Democrat, was elected without contest for the third place. A similar state of affairs existed in 1888. No effort was made to elect a Democrat for the first or second place; but Messrs. Cross and Emerson were again contestants for the first place with the result that the latter won. Ebenezer K. Pray, Republican, was elected for second place without contest, while for the third place there were three Democrats in the field: Homer Roby, Charles P. George, and Charles E. Mason. Mr. Mason was elected. In 1889, Mr. Emerson was conceded first place without contest, and Charles E. Mason, second place. For the third place there were two Republicans and one Democrat in the field, with the result that Clarence A. Smith, Republican, won. In 1890, Messrs. Cross and Emerson were again pitted against each other for the office of first selectman, and the latter won. Smith D. Fellows, Republican, and Herbert H. Follansbee, Democrat, were elected second and third selectmen, respectively.

In the presidential election in November, 1896, there were seven political parties in the field. In Bristol the McKinley and Hobart electors, Republicans, polled two hundred and ninety-six votes; Byron and Sewell, Silver Democrats, fifty-two; Palmer and Buckner, Gold Democrats, forty; all others, including Populists and Prohibitionists, ten. At this election, George A. Ramsdell, Republican candidate for governor, ran fifty-one votes behind the McKinley vote, while Henry O. Kent, Democrat, on a Bryan platform, ran thirty-six ahead of the Bryan electors. The Gold Democrats, Populists, and Prohibitionists in Bristol cast a total of seventeen votes for governor.

At the fall election in 1890, Richard W. Musgrove was elected to represent the fourth senatorial district in the New Hampshire senate.

At the annual town meeting in March, 1889, the sense of the voters was taken on the nine questions submitted by the constitutional convention of that year. The following is the record:

1. Do you approve of changing the time of the meeting of the legislature from June to January? Yes, 185; No, 38.
2. Do you approve of a fixed salary for members of the legislature? Yes, 175; No, 29.

3. Do you approve of filling vacancies in the senate by a new election? Yes, 135; No, 33.

4. Do you approve of having the speaker of the house act as governor in case of vacancies in the offices of governor and president of the senate? Yes, 115; No, 19.

5. Do you approve of inserting in the constitution an article prohibiting the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors? Yes, 66; No, 155.

6. Do you approve of making the bill of rights, nonsectarian? Yes, 106; No, 63.

7. Do you approve of representation in classed towns as proposed in amended constitution? Yes, 121; No, 31.

At the election in November, 1900, the McKinley presidential electors received a majority of one hundred and forty-six; Chester B. Jordan, Republican candidate for governor, received a majority of one hundred and thirty-one. At this election Wilmer C. Cox, Republican, was elected representative. Ira A. Chase, Esq., of Bristol, was the Republican nominee to represent the fourth district in the state senate, and he was elected. George H. Kendall, Republican, of Bristol, was elected register of deeds for the fourth term. Mr. Kendall was first elected in 1894, and such was his efficiency in office that he was renominated three times. At each election he ran largely ahead of his ticket. He did a great work in re-indexing the records of the register's office.

Since 1869, there has been a less partisan spirit in town affairs than previously. In scanning the list of selectmen previous to that date there are found only two or three instances, for many years, when a Democrat was elected to that office. In 1870, George T. Crawford was first elected and served two years; Caleb L. Clay served in 1874; Robert A. Horner, three years from 1878; Homer Roby served in 1886 and 1887; Charles E. Mason, in 1888 and 1889; Herbert H. Follansbee, in 1890, and Charles E. Davis served four years commencing with 1897.

By a law of the state, the so-called Australian system of secret voting went into effect at the fall election of 1892. By vote of the town at that time the same system was adopted for town elections. Since then there have been no unseemly wrangles or excitement when voting, and, as a plurality now elects, no lack of a choice.

#### REPRESENTATIVES

For the election of representatives, New Chester was first classed with Plymouth, Campton, and Rumney. New Chester first took part in a state election when members were chosen to the Fourth Provincial Congress, which met at Exeter, May 17, 1775. This congress changed the apportionment, and gave one representative to New Chester, Plymouth, Cockermouth, and Alexandria. Under this apportionment, elections occurred on the second Tuesday of December, and congress convened for its

first session on the third Wednesday of the same month. The first election in this district, under this apportionment, occurred at the court house in Plymouth, Dec. 12, 1775. The voters of Alexandria, in view of the long distance to be traveled, sent delegates to this meeting to vote for the town, and their indignation was great when they were allowed to vote only as individuals. Two remonstrances were sent to congress, one from Plymouth and one from Alexandria, protesting against this unjust treatment, but they were promptly dismissed. These remonstrances were as follows :

Plymouth 13<sup>th</sup> Decr 1775

To the Honourable Congress of the Colony of New-Hampshire—

May it please your Honors—

We your humble petitioners, beg leave to lay before you our Remonstrances against the proceedings, at a Meeting of a Number of the Inhabitants of this Town together with a few from the Towns of New-Chester, Cockermouth and Alexandria, held at the Court-House in Plimouth, the 12<sup>th</sup> of this Instant in order to make choice of a Delegate to represent said Towns in Provincial Congress.

We beg leave to inform your Honors, that the Inhabitants of the Town of Alexandria, by reason of the distance of Way and Difficulty of Traveling at this time of the Year, convened, and chose Men, and sent them to Plimouth to act in behalf of the Town; but they were suffered to act, in no other Capacity than as Individuals, by which means they were deprived of a Share in the Choice of a Representative—Also that a party Spirit has much prevailed in this Town of late which we are very sorry for—And we think sundry People have been influenced thereby—And that the Gentleman lately elected, was chosen by a party. And we think Things have not been fairly conducted.

We are dissatisfied with the above proceedings, therefore beg of your Honors to condescend so far as to grant a Warrant for another Meeting or permit another Choice to be made, in such a Manner, as that the whole may have a Voice in said Election —

David Webster  
Silos Brown  
Sam<sup>l</sup> Derbon  
Edward Evans  
onesiphes mash  
Jacob mash  
Samuel marsh  
Benjamin Wells  
Beniamin Darbon

Stephen Webster Junr  
Peter Emerson  
Winthrop Wells  
John webber  
Jonas Ward  
Amos Fish  
Paul Wells  
Josiah Brown  
Joseph Read

Colony of New Hampshire to the Honourable Congress to be heald at exeter on the twenty first Day of December Instant at three of the Clock in the afternoon—Wee Pray That the Congress Will Consider our Grevinces in not Having any fear Chance in Voting for a Person to Represent us in general Congress after the Warant Come to the town the town met and thought it might Answer to Send two of their Selectmen to act for the town For this Reson Because it was So fare for the Whole Town to attend they had all Near thirty Miles to gow and the Traviling So Bad to Whear they apointed the election to be Held and the two Selectmen met at the time and Place And the Modretar Refused to Let them Cerrey in Vots for the Legal Voters of Sd town Without evir



Putting it to Vote to See Whither the Rist of the towns Wood consent of it or not and ther is Number of the Voters of the other towns is Verey much Dissetisfied With His Presedings and the Selectmens of Plymoth and we the Subscribers Do Beg that the Honourable Congress Will Let us have New choice of a person to Represent us in Congress or wee Shall think that wee are Very hardly Imposed upon By the Congress

Alexandria December ye 25<sup>th</sup> 1775

Nason Cass Jr.	Jonathan Palmer	Eliphalet Gale
Anthony Taylor	Jonathan Palmer Jun	Josiah Emerson
James Taylor	William Palmer	Joseph Basford Jr.
William Morrow	Daniel McMurphy	John Moor Corless
Jonathan Taylor	John McMurphy	William Corliss
Robert Morrow	Asa Hastings	William Polee
Ebenezer Farrar	Benjamin Hoyt	George Corliss
William Powell	David Cross	Thomas Hoit
Jonathan Clark	Nathaniel Lad	Joseph Hoyt

In 1792, New Chester was classed with Alexandria, Cocker-mouth, Andover, and New London. Under the constitution of 1784, elections for representatives were held in the month of March, and the legislature assembled on the first Wednesday of June, following. New Chester was now classed with Cocker-mouth and Alexandria. When Bridgewater was incorporated in 1788, its territory continued to be classed as before, and when Hebron was incorporated in 1792, it was classed for one year with the towns named above.

The legislature of 1793 classed New Chester, Bridgewater, and Alexandria together. This continued for three years, when Danbury was added to this district. Two elections were held under this arrangement, when the two following petitions were sent to the legislature praying that the district be divided :

#### State of New Hampshire. Grafton SS

To the Honorable the General Court of Said State.

The petition of the inhabitants of the Town of Bridgewater, New Chester, Alexandria & Danbury, *Sheweth*, that whereas, Said Towns, at Present contains a Sufficient Number of Inhabitants to Send Two Representatives to the General Court of our Said State.—Therefore we pray your Honors would Divide Said District for said purpose and class Bridgewater & Alexandria together, & New Chester & Danbury, and your petitioners as in Duty Bound will ever pray

Novr 19<sup>th</sup> 1798

Theophilus Sanborn Selectman of New Chester.

Stephen Gale Selectman

Joshua Tolford

Moses Lewis

Christopher Bartlet

Benjamin Kidder

Peter Ladd

william martin

Moses Sleeper

Alexander Craig

Nathan Sleeper

Eliphalet Gale

Jonah Tirel

Ebenr Kelly

Peter Ingalls

To the Honorable the General Court of The State of New Hampshire ; to be convened at Concord on the Third Wednesday of November A. D., 1798.

Your Petitioner *Humbly Shew*, that the District of New Chester, Alexandria, Bridgewater, and Danbury contains about Three Hundred Legal Voters, and that the Distance from the upper part of Bridgewater to Danbury is about twenty miles which makes it extremely inconvenient for the freemen to attend Election Meetings, they therefore Pray your Honors to Divide the said District into two Representative Districts, or grant them such relief as you in your wisdom shall think fit; and as in Duty bound will ever Pray. Signed for and in behalf of the town.

Nov<sup>r</sup> 13, 1798.

Thomas Crawford	} Selectmen of Bridgewater
Daniel Morse	
John Harriman	

The result of these petitions was the passage of a resolution, Dec. 24, 1798, classing Bridgewater with Alexandria, and New Chester with Danbury. This arrangement continued till 1806, when New Chester and Bridgewater were each entitled to send one member. In 1805, the selectmen of New Chester sent to the selectmen of Danbury the following communication which speaks for itself :

New Chester, May 29, 1805.

To the Selectmen of Danbury, Greeting :

We the undersigned have Rated and Counted the Ratable Polls of New Chester, and find the amount to be Rising of one hundred and fifty. And in pursuance of the Constitution and laws of the State of New Hampshire, and for the further Consideration of the Inhabitants of Danbury we give you this information that we are of age and shall Choose a Representative by ourselves the next election that ever comes the Consideration of this is such that we Consider you will prepare and make provision accordingly

John Wadleigh	} Selectmen of New Chester
W. W Sargent	
Moses Sleeper	

New Chester and Bridgewater each sent one representative from this time till the incorporation of Bristol. Bristol was represented in the General Court by one member till 1872, when the number of her ratable polls entitled her to two. This continued till the adoption of the constitution of 1878, which reduced the membership of the house, and based the representation on the population. The election of representatives now occurred "on the Tuesday next following the first Monday in November, biennially;" and the legislature convened on the first Wednesday in January following. Since 1878, therefore, Bristol has had but one representative.

The following is a list of the representatives from New Chester and Bridgewater, and the towns classed with them, till 1819, and of Bristol since its incorporation.

From New Chester, Plymouth, Campton, and Rumney.  
(Elections in May)

1775 Abel Webster

From New Chester, Plymouth, Cockermouth, and Alexandria.  
(Elections in December)

1775	Samuel Emerson	1779	Joseph Senter
1776	Francis Worcester	1780	Enoch Noyes
1777	Francis Worcester	1781	Joseph Senter
1778	Francis Worcester		

From New Chester, Cockermouth, Alexandria, New London,  
and Andover.

1782 Carr Huse

From New Chester, Alexandria, and Cockermouth.  
(Elections in March)

1784	Carr Huse	1786	Joshua Tolford
1785	None	1787	Thomas Crawford

From New Chester, Bridgewater, Cockermouth, and Alexandria.  
(Also including Hebron in 1792.)

1788	William Powers	1791	Thomas Crawford
1789	Thomas Crawford	1792	Thomas Crawford
1790	Thomas Crawford	1793	Thomas Crawford

From New Chester, Bridgewater, and Alexandria.

1794	Thomas Crawford	1796	Thomas Crawford
1795	Thomas Crawford		

From New Chester, Bridgewater, Alexandria, and Danbury.

1797	Peter Sleeper	1798	Thomas Crawford
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From New Chester and Danbury. From Bridgewater and Alexandria.

1799	Edward Blodgett	Thomas Crawford
1800	Edward Blodgett	Thomas Crawford
1801	Ebenezer Kimball	Moses Lewis
1802	Ebenezer Kimball	Moses Lewis
1803	Ebenezer Kimball	Moses Lewis
1804	Ebenezer Kimball	Moses Lewis
1805	Ebenezer Kimball	Moses Lewis

From New Chester.

From Bridgewater

1806	Ebenezer Kimball	Thomas Crawford
1807	William W. Sargent	Moses Lewis
1808	William W. Sargent	Moses Lewis
1809	William W. Sargent	Moses Lewis
1810	William W. Sargent	Moses Lewis
1811	Jonathan Dickerson	Simon Harris
1812	Jonathan Dickerson	Simon Harris
1813	Sethus B. Forbes	Ichabod C. Bartlett
1814	William W. Sargent	Ichabod C. Bartlett

From New Chester.		From Bridgewater.	
1815	William W. Sargent	Ichabod C. Bartlett	
1816	Sethus B. Forbes	Simon Harris	
1817	William W. Sargent	Ichabod C. Bartlett	
1818	William W. Sargent	Simon Harris	
1819	William W. Sargent	James Minot	
From Bristol.			
1820	James Minot	1860	Frederick Bartlett
1821	Moses W. Sleeper	1861	Frederick Bartlett
1822	Walter Sleeper	1862	Jeremiah A. Haynes
1823	Moses H. Bradley	1863	Jeremiah A. Haynes
1824	Moses H. Bradley	1864	Cyrus Taylor
1825	Joseph Flanders	1865	Cyrus Taylor
1826	James Minot	1866	Levi Locke
1827	Joseph Moore	1867	Levi Locke
1828	Nathaniel S. Berry	1868	Samuel K. Mason
1829	Walter Sleeper	1869	Samuel K. Mason
1830	Walter Sleeper	1870	Samuel K. Mason
1831	Joseph Moore	1871	David Mason
1832	Joseph Moore	1872	David Mason
1833	Nathaniel S. Berry		David Calley
1834	Nathaniel S. Berry	1873	David Calley
1835	Samuel T. W. Sleeper		No choice on second
1836	Samuel T. W. Sleeper	1874	No choice
1837	Nathaniel S. Berry	1875	David Mason
1838	Samuel T. W. Sleeper		Philip S. Drake
1839	Samuel C. Brown	1876	Philip S. Drake
1840	Samuel C. Brown		Edwin S. Foster
1841	Robert W. Moore	1877	Edwin S. Foster
1842	Robert W. Moore		Calvin H. Mudgett
1843	Levi Bartlett	1878	Calvin H. Mudgett
1844	Levi Bartlett		Marshall W. White
1845	Samuel H. Stevens		Fall Elections.
1846	Samuel H. Stevens		
1847	Amos Brown	1878	Benjamin F. Holden
1848	Amos Brown	1880	William A. Beckford
1849	Nicholas Dolloff	1882	8 ballots, no choice
1850	Nicholas Dolloff	1884	Richard W. Musgrove
1851	F. Bartlett	1886	George H. Calley
1852	Gilman Ingalls, Jr.	1888	Marshall Ballou
1853	After 9 ballots, none	1890	John H. Brown
1854	Warren White	1892	Smith D. Fellows
1855	Warren White	1894	Charles H. Dickinson
1856	Calvin Swett	1896	Ira A. Chase
1857	Calvin Swett	1898	O. B. French
1858	8 ballots, none	1900	Wilmer C. Cox
1859	Joseph F. Rollins	1902	David M. Calley



## CHAPTER XXI

### ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY—NEW CHESTER

Near yonder copse, where once the garden smiled,  
And still where many a garden-flower grows wild ;  
There, where a few torn shrubs the place disclose,  
The village preacher's modest mansion rose.

—*Goldsmith.*

It appears in Chapter IV that the proprietors of New Chester voted in April, 1771, to raise for preaching fifty cents on each right, and, two years later, one dollar for the same purpose. The last named sum was afterward diverted towards the expense of securing the incorporation of the town, so that fifty cents per share was all the proprietors of New Chester ever expended for preaching in the new town. At this meeting it was also voted that there should be a meeting-house erected equal to thirty-five feet square, and two dollars per share was voted for the purpose. It was then "voted that those that Labor at Building the aforesaid Meeting House in s'd New Chester should have allowed to them two shillings and six pence per day for their Labour." One year later, it was voted that this two dollars should be divided and "applied towards building two meeting-houses, one in the lower part of the town and the other in the upper part of the town on the parsonage lots." There is no evidence to show, however, that a dollar was ever expended by the proprietors of New Chester in an effort to erect a church, and if the settlers were as anxious for the privileges of the sanctuary and to have a settled minister among them as were those of most towns at that time, there is nothing to establish the fact. There was no organized religious society, and no church was constructed within the limits of New Chester or Bridgewater till near the dawn of the nineteenth century. At a meeting of the voters of the town held July 17, 1777, it was voted to raise forty dollars for preaching that year, and that Lieut. Peter Sleeper should hire "Mr. Judson or some other minister for to preach in New Chester the present year." In 1780, it was voted that there should be money raised for preaching, but no amount was named. In 1793, New Chester voted to raise nine pounds, against which Capt. Theophilus Sanborn entered his dissent.

In 1796, there was an article in the New Chester town war-

rant to "see if the Town will vote to Build a Meeting House in the town the year ensuing where the town shall think proper in the most suitable and convenient place." The decision was in the affirmative; and a building was partially constructed at what is now Hill Center. At the annual meeting in 1800, it was voted "that a society might be incorporated to complete the meeting-house where it now stands." No society was incorporated; but the meeting-house was evidently completed soon after by private enterprise. The town at once commenced to hold its meetings there, the first being held Aug. 25, 1800, for the purpose of voting for representative to congress. Now that the people had a place for public worship, they became more liberal in raising money for the support of the gospel, and, in 1800 and 1801, the town voted each year to raise \$100 for that purpose. This tax, however, came in slowly. That portion of the town lying between Newfound and Smith's rivers, not wishing to travel to Hill Center to attend divine worship, hired a minister to preach to them and charged the expense against their minister's tax, which was allowed by vote of the town in 1803.

The minister tax at this early day was, evidently, very distasteful, and no attempt was again made to raise such a tax till 1807, when a vote, to which no one could object, was passed. It was to "raise 20 cents on a poll or other ratable estate in that proportion as a minister tax of the Congregational or Presbyterian order, said tax not to be made by the selectmen against any one person who shall not give their free consent to the selectmen when they give in their invoice." The result was, however, far from satisfactory. Out of one hundred and sixty-six taxpayers only thirty-five consented to be taxed, and the total amount raised by this vote was only \$64.89. In District No. 3, extending from the top of New Chester mountain to Newfound river, there were twenty-one taxpayers, only one of whom consented to be taxed, and he paid a minister tax of only thirty cents. A part of the residents of this district, however, doubtless helped to support the Methodist society that had recently been established in what is now Bristol village. This was the last attempt to raise money by taxation for the support of the gospel in New Chester. This town was, therefore, in advance of public sentiment on this subject, for it was not till 1819 that a law was placed on the statute books depriving towns of the right to levy a tax for the support of the church.

After having voted repeatedly not to sell the ministerial lots, New Chester voted, Mar. 11, 1811, to sell the remainder of her public lots, and this was evidently done that year. In this connection the following vote was passed:

That the interest money arising from the sale of the lots, given for

the first settled minister and the ministerial lots, be apportioned among the several denominations known in law in the State, according to Poll and Estate to be laid out for preaching and as many of the several denominations as wish to have the money preached at the meeting house to have it there and all those who wish not to have it preached out at the meeting house to have it at any other place in the town that will best accommodate them. Each denomination to choose their own agent.

In addition to the small sums raised by taxation for preaching, the income from the ministerial and parsonage lots was used for this purpose. Preachers from neighboring towns came here occasionally on missions of love to the people, and held services in different parts of the town, in dwellings, in barns, in schoolhouses, or in groves, as occasion demanded. The little schoolhouse on the west side of North Main street, just north of the hotel, and the barn connected with what is now the Green residence, were the usual places of holding services in Bridgewater village. Here Rev. Enoch Whipple, pastor of the Congregational church at Alexandria, used to preach, as did also Rev. Nathan Ward, of Plymouth; Rev. Mr. Hibbard, of New Hampton; Samuel Perley, Thomas Page, and Wm. Rolfe, of Groton, and others. People used also to ride or walk to Alexandria and Danbury to attend divine worship, and Carr Huse and Cutting Favor rode horseback to Plymouth to attend church there. When we take into account the fact that usually there was no attempt to hold any services during the long winter months, the meagre religious privileges of these early settlers become still more apparent.

The erection of the meeting-house at Hill Center gave the people of that vicinity the advantage of a convenient place of worship; and, from the date of its erection, services were held there with more or less frequency. There was, however, no organized church there for many years. The Methodists had a class there as early as 1812, connected with the church at Bridgewater village, and this was evidently the first religious organization in that part of New Chester now Hill. Caleb Sargent was leader of this class for many years.

The organization of the Congregational church and the incorporation of the First Congregational society in what is now Hill village, in 1815, seems to have stimulated a few to effect a church organization at the Center, and, in December, 1816, the "Center Congregational Society in New Chester" was incorporated, with Waite Stevens, John Sargent, and Meshach Cate as incorporators. There is no evidence, however, to show that an organization was ever effected under this charter. June 30, 1819, the owners of the meeting-house were incorporated under the name of the "Proprietors of the First Meeting-House in New Chester." The incorporators were Thomas Favor, William W. Sargent, Sethus W. Forbes, Waite Stevens, Daniel

Favor, Samuel Favor, John McCrillis, Moses Wells, and Ebenezer Mason.

In 1831, a Calvinist Baptist church was organized at the Center by Rev. Stephen Coombs, and he became the first pastor. This church was first reported in the denominational year-book in 1832, and as having a membership of thirty-five. Samuel Murray and Joseph Johnson were deacons, and William Searle and Samuel Calley were among the earliest active workers. In 1833, Rev. John Peacock was pastor, and there was a Sunday-school with nine teachers and fifty scholars, and a library of sixty volumes. In 1837, the Sunday-school was reported as having ninety members and one hundred and fifty volumes.

In 1835, under the labors of Rev. Joshua Clement, there was an extensive revival of religion, and the membership of the church was increased to seventy-five—its highest point. Mr. Clement continued to labor there till 1839. During the latter part of his stay, a division arose in the society on doctrinal questions, and became so bitter that the church was wrecked; and the year 1839 marked the end of the Calvinist Baptist church in Hill Center. Two years later, Rev. Stephen Coombs returned for a brief period and attempted, without success, to resuscitate the church he had organized ten years before. The church was carried on the rolls of the denominational year-book till 1846.

The First Christian church of Hill Center was organized Aug. 31, 1839, with twenty-eight members, a portion being former members of the Baptist church. The organization of this church was largely the work of Rev. Benjamin Calley. Its officers were: Deacons, James Tucker and Samuel Wells; clerk, Samuel M. Currier; helps, Moses Currier and Samuel Gale. The church had a prosperous career for a time. In 1842, there was a revival, and the next year the membership reached fifty-one. The revival was closely followed by the Millerite excitement, which spread like wild-fire, and shook the church almost from its foundation. The cry was "Get out of Babylon [the church] or you will be lost." For eight years, there were no additions to the membership. Mar. 1, 1850, Rev. Moses Polly took the pastoral care of the church, and \$300 was raised for his support. His labors were successful, the church was revived, and seventeen were added to its numbers. Then another eight years passed without an addition. The last of 1857 or first of 1858, Rev. Lewis Phillips became the pastor. He found the membership scattered, and the church in such a low state that, at a council, called by him, it was decided to reorganize. This was done Mar. 4, 1858, under the name of the "Hill Center Christian Church." The following were the officers and members: Deacons, Samuel Wells, Eben W. Mason; clerk, Charles



M. Cilley; members, Samuel Wells, Eben W. Mason, Samuel D. Johnson, Milton Mason, Stephen S. Hersey, Samuel Dearborn, Charles M. Cilley, Sally Wells, Nancy F. Bartlett, and Jane M. Mason. There was a great revival in 1858; and twenty-four were added to the church the following year. Rev. Charles H. Webber, a Free Baptist clergyman, became pastor in 1860; and he was succeeded, in 1867, by Rev. Joseph H. Brown. In June, 1869, Rev. David F. Smith was called to the pastorate, and thirteen were added to the membership during the following two years. Revs. H. B. Sawyer, H. A. Stratton, John C. Fifield, and Proctor FAVOR have served as pastors here. In December, 1880, Rev. E. H. Wright assumed the pastorate and continued till March, 1898, covering a term of seventeen years and three months. During his pastorate, thirty-seven were added to the church. Since then, the pulpit has been supplied by Rev. Benjamin F. Estes and Rev. Edward Francis. The present deacons are Augustus A. Bartlett and Myron L. Hersey; and Charles M. Cilley is still clerk.

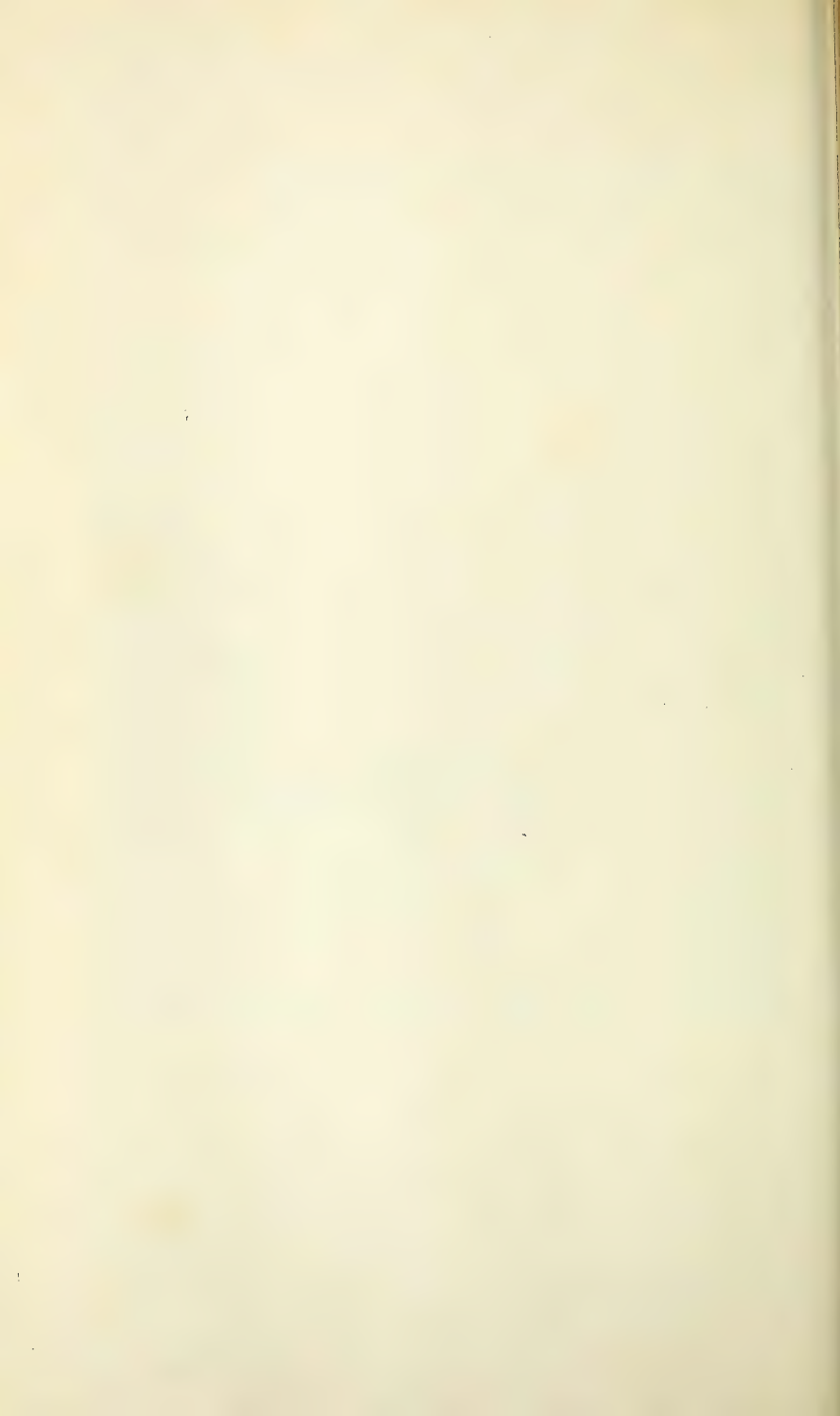
On the nineteenth day of February, 1815, Rev. William Rolfe, of Groton, and Rev. Leonard Jewett organized a Congregational church, at what is now Hill village, of two members—Carr Huse and Israel Adams. During the first year of its history, thirteen names were added; and in October, 1817, the membership consisted of twenty-seven. Carr Huse and Israel Adams were the first deacons. The organization of this society was opposed by the town on the ground that public worship that was sustained at the Center was all that the town could support. At the annual town meeting in 1816, the representative was instructed "to use his best endeavors to prevent an act of incorporation going into effect for a Congregational society as petitioned for by a number of the inhabitants of New Chester, New Hampton, Sanbornton, and Andover." A charter was granted, however, to Carr Huse, Edward Shaw, John Smith, their associates and successors under the name of "The First Congregational Society of New Chester." They were authorized to raise money in the usual way for the purpose of "purchasing, building, or repairing any meeting-house or place of public worship and for the maintenance and support of the gospel." They were entitled to hold property, the income from which should not exceed \$1,000 per year; and to receive from the town "a proportion of the money arising from the interests or rents of the lands sold or leased or that shall hereafter be sold or leased belonging to two rights of land reserved in the charter of said town for the first settled minister, and the other for the benefit of the minister and such proportion shall be as the amount of the inventory of the polls and ratable estate of the members of said society who are inhabitants of New Chester is to the total amount of the inventory of said town and no more."

A society was organized about the same time under the name of "The First Congregational Meeting-House Society" in Hill village, with the intention of sustaining public worship forty-eight weeks of the year. Men could be obtained, however, for only thirty weeks. Rev. Luke A. Spofford labored twelve weeks; Rev. J. P. Fisher, fourteen, and Rev. William Rolfe, four. Mr. Rolfe labored half the time here the next year, and was given a call to settle as pastor, but he declined. The report this year was that the work in New Chester was "very encouraging." "With great exertion they have raised \$145 a year for four years to sustain preaching three-fourths of the time." In 1818, Mr. Rolfe supplied this church three months, and Rev. Drury Fairbanks, the same length of time. In 1819, Rev. Isaac W. Burnham served this people twenty-two weeks; Drury Fairbanks, nine, and Josiah Prentice, three. The people paid \$150 towards the support of these missionaries. A house of worship was commenced, and was completed in 1821, and dedicated Jan. 1, 1822. The pews were sold Feb. 5, following. Previous to the erection of this church, services were held in the barn of Major Kimball, a part of which was finished off for this purpose. The preaching of the gospel here was largely sustained by appropriations of the Missionary society. Among the ministers laboring here were Stephen M. Wheeler, Broughton White, Daniel Kendrick, and Benjamin Sargent. Then came Rev. Isaac Knight, who was the first settled pastor. He was installed Jan. 6, 1831, and was dismissed by council in 1836. In 1831, Jedediah Cole and Joseph Prescott were elected deacons. In 1833, the membership of the church was eighty. During the pastorate of Mr. Knight, the church enjoyed its highest prosperity. J. W. Woodward was a supply for a time, and May 2, 1838, Rev. Hazael Lucas was installed pastor and served till Jan. 16, 1839. The church was then without a pastor till Apr. 27, 1843, when Rev. John Le Bosquet was installed. He served till Apr. 24, 1849, when he was dismissed by a council, "for want of support." For ten years, the church had steadily declined, and it was reported as "weak, destitute, dispirited," and the society as "reduced by deaths and removals." Rev. D. Savage labored here for a while in 1853, at which time there were "only fifteen resident members to be depended upon" and the prospect was reported as "dark."

With the withdrawal of Mr. Savage, in 1853, the church became practically extinct, though it was borne on the rolls of the denominational year-book till 1880. No records were kept from July 5, 1851, till Mar. 28, 1884. Union services were now held in Hill village, the church being used whenever preaching could be obtained. In order the better to meet the changed conditions "The First Congregational Meeting-House Society" was reorganized. At a meeting held Feb. 5, 1856, it was voted



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, HILL, DESTROYED BY FIRE, 1887





that the society should thereafter be known as the "East Meeting-House Society," the church edifice having been known for many years as the East meeting-house, in distinction from that at the Center. New by-laws were adopted. Each pewholder was entitled to a vote, and, there being fifty-two pews, each pew was entitled to be represented in the pulpit one Sunday in the year. Thus different denominations were entitled to occupy the pulpit as many Sundays as its adherents owned pews. In practice, however, the majority generally decided who should occupy the pulpit. From 1853 till 1870, there was preaching the greater part of the time by such supplies as could be obtained by the Union society.

In April, 1870, Rev. E. H. Wright commenced his labors there. There being no active church organization in the village, he organized, Aug. 14 of that year, a Christian church with thirty members; but work as a Union society was continued. In October, 1872, sickness in his family compelled Mr. Wright to resign, and he removed to Manchester. He was succeeded by Revs. Frederick H. Bartlett, Frank E. Davidson, W. S. Morrill, H. C. Howard, Alva H. Morrill, D. D., and perhaps others. In January, 1877, Mr. Wright resumed pastoral care of the Union society and continued till April 1, 1880, being succeeded by Rev. J. C. Fifield and Rev. A. H. Martin. In March, 1882, Mr. Wright again assumed the pastorate, and continued till succeeded, Mar. 28, 1884, by Rev. Samuel F. Lougee, a Congregationalist. In June, following, the Congregational church was reorganized with twenty-two members. William Sumner and Charles W. Cole were elected deacons, and Mrs. J. Q. A. Prescott, clerk. Mr. Lougee remained here three years, closing his labors March 27, 1887. Rev. W. I. Cole labored three months, and was succeeded, in June, by Rev. V. W. Blackman, also a Congregationalist. The New Hampshire Home Missionary society contributed towards the support of both Mr. Lougee and Mr. Blackman. On the evening of Sunday, Sept. 11, 1887, the church was destroyed by fire.<sup>1</sup> After this event, services were held in Academy hall. Mr. Blackman closed his labors in April, 1888, and was succeeded, May 1, 1888, by Rev. Chas. W. Scott, who served till Apr. 27, 1890.

The destruction of the church edifice seems to have stimulated both Congregationalists and the Christians to erect houses of worship of their own.

Oct. 22, 1887, the Christian church was reorganized, and, the same date, A. B. Johnson, of Kansas City, Mo., and Leonard Hathon, of Hill, each offered \$1,000 towards the erection of a Christian church; and Frank R. Woodward offered

<sup>1</sup>This was evidently the work of an incendiary. At the same time, an effort was made to burn the academy hall, thus leaving the village without a place in which to hold a public gathering.

to give a lot of land on the west side of Main street, and to put in the foundation. It was decided to erect a church and the contract was let to Mr. Woodward. The church was completed in the fall of 1888 and dedicated Dec. 21. The church is a gothic structure, thirty-eight by eighty-five feet, audience room thirty-eight by sixty-five feet, with a seating capacity of two hundred. Connected with the audience room in front is a parlor twenty by twenty-seven feet, which has a seating capacity of one hundred. In the basement is a commodious vestry. The total cost was \$5,000.

Rev. E. H. Wright served as pastor of the Christian church from the dedication of the church edifice till Sept. 13, 1902, when he tendered his resignation which was accepted, after a total pastorate of the Union and Christian churches of the village of twenty-one years and six months. After May, 1900, Mr. Wright, though pastor, did but little work, and the pulpit was supplied for two years by Rev. Edward Francis. He was succeeded by Rev. James McKenzie, and the church, following the acceptance of Mr. Wright's resignation, invited the Merimack Christian conference to ordain Mr. McKenzie, and extended to him an invitation to become the pastor, immediately upon his ordination.

The Congregationalists erected a church on the east side of Main street, in 1888, which was dedicated Jan. 17, 1889. This church is fifty-seven by forty-four feet extreme measurements. The audience room is forty-one by forty-four feet, with a seating capacity of three hundred and twenty-five; all seats free. In the basement is a hall forty-one by forty-four feet, built by the gratuitous evening work of the young men of the town. The entire cost of the church was something over \$5,000, and it was dedicated free from debt. The society has, at present, funds amounting to about \$4,000. Of this amount, Dr. Gilman Kimball bequeathed \$2,000, and Ephraim L. Rowell, \$1,200. This fund yields about \$150 yearly, and the New Hampshire Home Missionary society contributes \$200 yearly towards the support of preaching here. Those who have served as pastors of this church since the reorganization have been Revs. S. F. Lougee, V. W. Blackman, Chas. W. Scott, Frederick W. Manning, Gardner S. Butler, Chas. W. Scott second term, Charles O. Parker, C. R. Newcomb, Holland B. Frye, J. A. McKnight, and now Rev. Christian Groezinger. George A. Sumner and Harrison Adams were elected deacons in July, 1890. Since the decease of Mr. Adams, the deacons have been Mr. Sumner, George H. Adams, and Charles F. Adams.

In the spring of 1842, while the Congregational pulpit was without a pastor, the Methodist conference sent Rev. J. Boyden to Hill village as Junior preacher under Rev. J. C. Cromack, pastor of the M. E. church at Bristol. For three years from the

spring of 1846, Rev. John Gould had charge of the work in Hill in connection with the Methodist church in Alexandria, probably residing in Alexandria. In 1849, Rev. Reuben Dearborn was resident pastor. He was succeeded, in 1850 and 1851, by Rev. Orlando H. Jasper. The Methodists worshipped in Abram Fowler's barn a portion of these years. At the conclusion of these pastorates, the class or classes at Hill again became a part of the Methodist church in Bristol.

In that part of Hill known as the Borough, the Freewill Baptists held regular meetings in the schoolhouse or in Deacon Eben Avery's barn as early as 1829. In 1834, they were reported in the denominational year-book as an organized society with a membership of twenty-one. This church was organized by Elder David Fisk, and he alternated with his son, Elder Ebenezer Fisk, in holding meetings here. Rev. Walter Sleeper, a Methodist local preacher, frequently supplied, and Elder Benj. M. McMurphy was ordained, that he might be able to preach and administer the sacraments. The name of Rev. Lincoln Lewis also appears as a supply in 1839. The meetings were largely attended, and, in 1843 and 1844, forty-three members were reported. The society ceased to exist about the time of the organization of the Free Baptist church in Bristol village, and was last reported in 1849.

In 1842, there was a revival of religion on Dickerson hill under the labors of Elder Amos Brown, a Free Baptist clergyman residing in Alexandria. The meetings were held in the district schoolhouse. In 1843, he organized a church with twenty-one members. The largest number reported was in 1848, when there were thirty-eight members. The church had but a feeble existence and evidently ceased to exist about 1866, though it was reported in the denominational year-book as late as 1875. The membership in 1875 was reported as eighteen.

## CHAPTER XXII

### ECCLESIASTICAL—BRIDGEWATER

There is a Power whose care  
Teaches thy way.

—*Bryant.*

In September, 1793, Rev. Thomas Page, pastor of the Congregational church at Groton, organized a branch of his church on Bridgewater hill. This was the first religious organization within the limits of the old town of New Chester. Mr. Page held meetings occasionally in the barn of Benjamin Boardman, and meetings were also held by Rev. Nathan Ward, of Plymouth, by "Father Chaplain," and others. Dea. Joshua Fletcher supplied this people a part of the time from 1793 till 1798, when he removed from Plymouth to Bridgewater, and became the stated supply whenever there was no ordained minister to officiate. This continued till 1818. He was hired and designated as a "public speaker."

In 1798, for the first time, an article was inserted in the warrant for the annual town meeting in Bridgewater, to see how much money the town would vote to raise to hire preaching that year, and the vote was not to raise any. The next year, however, it was voted to raise fifty dollars, "including the interest on the minister's lot." From this it would seem that the town had sold at least one of the two minister's lots within its limits and deposited the proceeds into the treasury, using the interest for preaching. It was also voted that one-half of the fifty dollars be laid out at Moses Pillsbury's, on the hill, and the other half at Josiah Fellows's (where H. N. Emmons now resides) and that the selectmen procure the minister.

It was "voted Oct. 11, 1799, to build a meeting-house in Ezekiel Worthen's south field as a center place for the town." At an adjourned meeting October 15, the vote was reconsidered, and it was voted to have "but one center to build a meeting house." A committee, consisting of William Pingree, Josiah Fellows, Isaac Senter, Peter Sanborn, and Ezekiel Worthen, was elected "to fix on the spot where the meeting house should be." This committee was to report at the annual meeting in 1800; but, instead of hearing this report, the meeting dismissed the committee, and no further effort was made by the town to erect a house of worship.



As early as 1800, there were a considerable number of the Free Baptist persuasion in town, mostly on the hill. They were sufficiently numerous and united that they sent a delegation to the Yearly Meeting of the denomination at New Durham that year, and were assessed \$4 as part of \$100 levied on the churches of the denomination that year. In 1804, they were an organized church. Eight years later, the delegates from this church assisted in the organization of the Sandwich Quarterly Meeting. How long this organization existed is not known, but it had ceased to exist in 1818. On the eighth of August, 1819, "Elder Cheney" organized another church which designated itself the "Second Freewill Baptist Church in Bridgewater." As the successor of the First church, it became known only as the First church. This new church, at its organization, consisted of but four members. One of these withdrew soon after, and there were no additions till Sept. 20, 1820, when nine were baptized by Elder Perkins, and united with the church.

The fourth of November, 1802, the "First Religious Society of Bridgewater" was organized. This society was a Congregational organization, but was composed of men of all denominations. Its object was the building and control of a house of worship. The following is a part of the records of the first meeting:

At the above meeting and at the several adjournments a number of men both of the church and congregation signed the constitution and their Pledged their honor to Support it and Denominated them selves the first Religious Society in Bridgewater.

Now the Constitution and their names will follow

#### Introduction to the Constitution

The gospel in its genewine opperation has a Faborbele effect upon Government regelating the morals of the People—and it has an encouraging influence to promote Education industry—Agricultures and interprise indeed it tendes to advance every sociel blessing which Can be enjoyed by mankind besides it reveals the only Sure foundation of futer happiness for presus and immortal Souls So that it is the Duety of all men and ought to be esteemed the preveledge of all who can be favoured with aney of the blessings promated by the gospel to doe their preporportion according to their Several abilitays toward the support thereof.

#### Constitution. 1802

Therefore we acknoledge our obligation to suportre the worship of God together with his people to be of a moral and devine nater and we hereby promis to govern ourselves and be governd in all matters of practice in this society as every article in this Constitution may require untill we may be reguarly discharged.

Article 1. A majority of two thirds of our Society Shall govern in all maters relative to the Support of Such Candates and minesters as the Church in Bridgewater and society may sea cause to imploy and settell from time to time and further that this society shall settell every matter

of Dissatisfaction respecting our individual proportion by a deliberate attention and regular vote

Art. 2. We will annually meet in the month of March at which times we will a moderator to govern also a Clerk and two or more men who with the Clerk shall be our Standing Commitey for the whole year and untill others shall be chosen in their room we will also chuse a Colector whose Duty it shall be shue or inform Each member their proportion soon after he receives the list and indavour to make a full settlement with the Clerk or Treasure by the next annawell meeting so that their may be a receipt in full had from the Candidate or paster and if this is not Done he Shall State the matters before the society.

Art. 3. Our Clerk Shall warn the annawell meeting and such other meetings as he shall judge needefull and also at the request of one fourth part of Said Society—and at all our meetings he shall lead in the Choice of a moderator Ever keep a Carefull record of the Doings of the Society of the of himself with the Commiteys and record all the Equaliteys specifing when they were voted &c—likewise read or cause to be read this Constitution to the society each annuel meeting.

Art. 4. The Commity Shall soon after our annuel meeting being instructed by Society meet to Consult and agree with Such Candidate or minster as the Church and Society wish to imploy as a Candidate or a Steadey pasture and shall endavour to unite with him and each other upon the Sum they Shall think most reasonabel for them to pay as a Compensation for his expences and labours in our services during the term agreed for while he is to Support the liberal Carracter we doe or may wish our Paster to Sustain our Commitey is to make up their Judgement by tacking all matters of Considerabell Consequence relitive to the past and present property of the Paster also his past and present Circumstances together with the past and present Circumstances of the Society under their deliberate Considerations indavouring that one may not be eased and another burdened but their may be such an Equalitye as the trew sperit of the gospel requires and at a meeting warned for the purpose between the annawell meetings and the next our Commitey from year to year shall make their report and if Desired they shall shew the Society the grounds of their Judgement and we will raise a sum annawelly having a due regard to the Judgement of the Commitey or to the reasons which they may lay before us and the Committe Shall apportion the Same Sum to the Society accordingly to our Several Polls and Estates Except in Singler Cases Varing as they may think most reasonable and every year by the first day of June they Shall Commit the list to the Colector with ritten Instructions

Art. 5. In Case it should so happen that aney member of this Society Should Become dissatesfied with their membership in this society it will be their duty to appear in Sum full meting of the society and state their Complaint who are entitled to a fair hearing and if their reasons are Satisfactory may be honorabely dismist but if they break away without giving the society satisfactory reasons they are to be Considered unfaithfull unholosom Persons in whom Confidence Cannot be put.

Art. 6. This Constitution is not designed to regard aney one Denomination in preference to another neither Sectery or Purswasion Minster Paster or teacher But such as the Church or the Church & Society may fellorship and wish to imploy the periveleges hearin granted are that each Denomination Shall Injoy as equell priviledges as our Several Sentements will admit of—and this Constitution is designed to be Purpetual but ought to be revised whenever two thirds of our members think it is expedient—And furdemore we take this method to express our Vews of duty and that we may set our selves in Order to uphold the worship of god together with his People in the world and that we may so Conduct as that we may have Som ratinal hope of the Eternal Enjoyment of god through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Now follows the names of the Subscribers to the above Constitution

Benjamin Boardman	Samuel King	Caleb Pillsbury Jun
Elias Boardman	Daniel Martin	Nathan Pillsbury
John Fellows	James Varnum	Philip N. Robey
Isaac Senter	Joseph Morse	Joshua Fletcher
Daniel Morse	Benjamin Rowe Jr	William Mills
Moses Pillsbury	David Thurston	John Morse
Caleb Pillsbury	Daniel Sleeper	Enoch Melven
Charles Mitchell	John Kidder Jun	Robert Mitchell
Peter Starns	James Sargent	Joseph Fletcher
Daniel Ordway	John Pillsbury	Benj. Rowe
Benjamin Smith		

This society decided, Sept. 26, 1803, to build a meeting-house. William Pingree, Maj. Benj. Boardman, Daniel Sleeper, and Caleb Pillsbury were made a committee to select a building site. This meeting was adjourned twelve days, and, on reassembling, it was decided to build a house forty-nine by thirty-eight feet and "set it at the north end of Enoch Malvern's house," agreeable to a plan presented by James Sargent. All pews were to be sold to the highest bidder; one-third of the purchase money to be paid Nov. 1, 1803; one-third, Nov. 1, 1805, and the balance, Nov. 1, 1806, or on completion of the house.

The sale of the pews took place Nov. 7, 1803. The following is a list of the purchasers, the number of the pews, and the amount paid for each:

	No.	\$		No.	\$
Daniel Sleeper	1	40	Capt. Caleb Pillsbury	23	44
John Pillsbury	2	46	James Sargent	24	65
Elias Boardman	3	41	Peter Starns	25	61
Ensign Robert Mitchell	4	38	Isaac Senter	26	45
Elias Boardman	5	40	Thomas Crawford, Esq	27	40
Simon Harris	6	40	Peter Starns	28	42
Robert Crawford	7	42	Charles Mitchell	29	40
Joshua Fletcher	8	40	Ezekiel Worthing	30	40
Shurbon Tilton	9	32	Joseph Prescott	31	65
Peter Sleeper	10	40	Capt. John Fellows	32	63
Abraham Doliff	11	47	Lieut Daniel Brown	33	41
Isaac Senter	12	54	Samuel Woord	34	40
Enoch Melvin	13	50	Isaac Senter	35	40
John Kidder Jun	14	45	William Miller	36	40
Isaac Senter	15	41	Samuel King	37	42
Joseph Fletcher	16	33	Minister Pew	38	
James Sargent	17	40	Joseph Fletcher	39	46
Simeon Batchelder	18	45	Moses Pillsbury	40	65
Daniel Ordway	19	46	M Benja Boardman	41	65
Peter Starns	20	41	Nathan Pillsbury	42	46
Abraham Vickery	21	35	Enoch Melven 43, \$11 & dore stand		
Abraham Dollif	22	43	Capt Daniel Morss	44	40

#### Galery Pews

	No	\$		No	\$
Isaac Senter	1	21	Abel Fuller	13	17
Capt. John Fellows	2	12	Capt Caleb Pillsbury	14	15

	No.	\$		No.	\$
Moses Pilsbury	3	16	John Haron	15	13
William Pingree	4	15	Lieut Daniel Brown	16	13
Enoch Melvin	5	15	Joseph Prescott	17	14
Enoch Melvin	6	13	John Kidder Jr	18	20
Moses Pilsbury	7	13	Elias Boardman	19	15
Parker Morrill	8	16	James Sargent	20	15
Robert Glover	9	18	James Sargent	21	20
Benjamin Smith }	10	21	M Benj Boardman	22	21
Lt Daniel Brown }			Peter Sleeper }	23	16
Smith	11	20	Shurbon Tilton }		
Daniel Kentfield	12	21			

The church edifice was a two-story structure after the style of that day, thirty-eight by forty-nine feet, twenty-two foot posted. There was a gallery on three sides. On the first floor, were forty-six box pews; the gallery contained twenty-four pews, besides four for the singers in the center, opposite the pulpit, and eight free seats. The pulpit, on the north side, was reached by a flight of stairs, and had the usual sounding-board over it. The main entrance was in the center, opposite the pulpit. On each end of the building was an extension ten feet square containing a side entrance and stairs to the gallery. The building was lighted in the first story with eighteen windows of twenty-eight small lights each. In the second story, were nineteen windows of twenty-four lights each, and there was one large window over the pulpit. There were no provisions for warming the house.

The raising of this meeting-house took place in 1804. It was a great event occupying two days. People came from a distance of thirty miles, many camping near by for lack of places of entertainment. Among the number were those who erected booths for the sale of spirituous liquors. The selectmen were troubled at this, and decided it would be a disgrace to the town for men to be obliged to buy liquors on such an occasion, and they therefore purchased all the liquors on the ground and offered them to the crowd gratis.

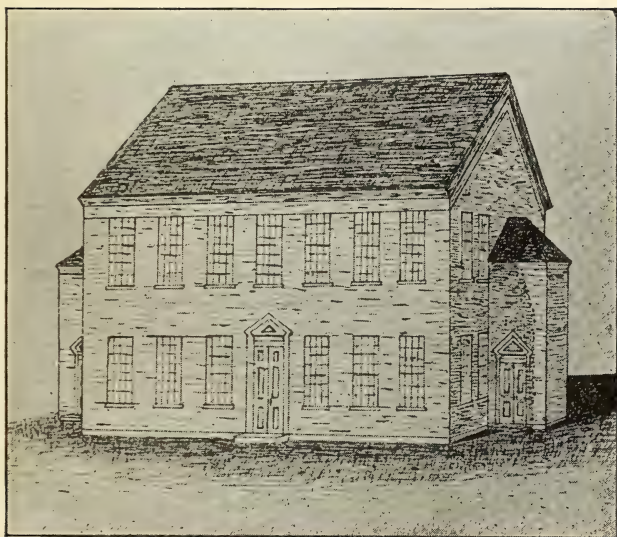
The church was finished in June, 1806, and dedicated soon after, Rev. Drury Fairbanks, of Plymouth, delivering the dedicatory sermon. On this occasion, brandy and punch were freely used.

Four different denominations were interested in the building of this church, and the agreement was that each should use it in proportion to its interest in the building. Under this arrangement, between the first of April and the last of December of each year, the Congregationalists were entitled to use it fifteen Sundays; the Methodists, ten; the Freewill Baptists, nine; the Universalists, five. No provision was made for public worship in January, February or March. In practice, the Congregationalists occupied the pulpit most of the time.



The First Religious society started off in 1802 by raising \$30 as a minister tax; the next three years, \$50 was raised annually; in 1807, \$75. From 1809, money for the support of preaching of the Congregational order was raised by subscription. That year, the subscription amounted to \$74, of which amount Dea. Fletcher was paid \$70. Enoch Malvern was the first janitor of the house, and his compensation was \$2 for the year. For this amount, he opened the house each day it was used, and swept it four times during the year. The large salary paid the janitor caused so many to desire the position that it

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THE BRIDGEWATER MEETING-HOUSE.

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was thereafter put up at auction each year. The lowest price paid was fifty-nine cents; the highest, \$1.25. At each sale the stipulation was that the house should be swept four times during the year.

In 1813, the New Hampshire Missionary society came to the aid of the struggling Congregationalists on Bridgewater hill; and Rev. William Rolfe and Rev. Mr. Sawyer spent some time with this people. For the year 1814, the society appropriated \$300 for the work in Bridgewater, Alexandria, and Danbury. It was hoped that a missionary could, with local aid, be kept in

this field the entire year. Rev. Leonard Jewett was sent here this year; but he relinquished the work in the middle of the year on account of ill health, and Rev. Hosea Wheeler succeeded him for a brief service.

A Congregational church was organized here Feb. 4, 1818. The council was composed of Rev. Ebenezer Price, Boscawen; Rev. Abraham Bodwell, Sanbornton; Rev. William Patrick, Canterbury; Rev. Samuel Wood, Boscawen, and delegates from these churches. At this time, those in Bridgewater who had been members of the Groton church withdrew, and helped form the new church. Dea. Fletcher appears to have been a frequent supply here after the organization of the church, as well as before, for the means and interest of the people had not from the first been sufficient to support a pastor, and under a church organization there was no improvement. In 1824, Rev. Benj. Sargent visited this people and stated that the Lord's Supper had not been celebrated there for three years. During the year 1825, Rev. Mr. Sargent labored for sixteen weeks here and in Alexandria, and Rev. Mr. Bowles labored a brief time; but the people were evidently discouraged, and, in March, 1826, voted not to pass a subscription paper that year. This vote seems to have created a reaction in the sentiment of the community, and renewed efforts were made to prolong the life of the church. The proprietors of the meeting-house secured a charter of incorporation, Chase Fuller, Daniel Cass, and their associates being the incorporators. A call was then extended to Rev. Charles Bowles to become the pastor of the church, the people agreeing to support him half the time. He accepted, and was installed Oct. 11, 1826. The installing council consisted of Rev. Abraham Burnham and Dea. Abraham Bodwell, of Pembroke, Rev. Jonathan Ward and delegate, of Plymouth, and Rev. Jonathan L. Hale and delegate, of Campton. The Missionary society evidently assisted each year in the support of Mr. Bowles; in 1828, to the extent of \$84. During his pastorate, the church attained its highest prosperity. He continued here till 1830, when he was compelled to resign on account of the inability of the people to support him, and he was dismissed by a council, Apr. 13 of that year. At that time, the membership was thirty. The aid from the Missionary society the last year was \$129.

In 1832, Rev. James Hobart divided his time among Bridgewater, Alexandria, and Danbury, in the employ of the Missionary society; and, in 1834, Rev. James Saunders labored here a few weeks.

In 1839, Rev. John Suddard labored a few months, and, in 1848 and 1850, Rev. J. K. Whittemore labored a part of the time. At this time, he reported the "membership, twenty-four, six of whom were widows, and two over ninety-one years of age.

Dissentions threaten its ruin." From that time, there were only occasional services. In 1860, the reasons assigned for this state of affairs were: "Its geographical position, mountainous surface, constant emigration, and conversion of farms into pastures."

Apparently, the last meeting of the First Religious society was held Mar. 8, 1867, when the following record was made:

State of New Hampshire  
Grafton SS. Mar. 8, 1867

Met according to adjournment a motion was made to adjourn to the eighth day of June next

Jesse Prescott, proprietors clerk  
Mar. 8, 1867.

In the year-book of the denomination in 1872, the Congregational church of Bridgewater was considered extinct.

The Freewill Baptist church, for a few years after its organization, held regular monthly meetings. In time, however, the interest and attendance declined, and it maintained a struggling existence for many years. One potent cause of weakness was dissensions within the church. In 1887, the church voted against a proposition to disband, the members to take letters to the churches at Bristol and Ashland. Another conference was held at Union Hall, Oct. 11, 1889, at which Rev. J. W. Scribner and Rev. E. C. Clark were present. There were then on the rolls forty-seven names — twenty-three resident, and twenty-four non-resident. Of these, only ten were present, and only one signified a willingness to take a letter to another church. There was some disposition shown to revive the monthly meetings; but, as far as appears from the records, only three meetings were held after this date. The Free Baptist year-book, in 1900, reported a membership of thirty-six, of whom seventeen were non-resident; but this report is starred, indicating that no report was received from the church.

Rev. Paul Perkins was at the head of this church for many years previous to his death, in 1843; and Rev. Daniel Batchelder succeeded him and retained the position for many years. The deacons were Joseph Rollins, Seth Glover, David Batchelder, Simeon Batchelder, and Rodney Hammond. The ruling elders were Abraham Smith, Joseph Rollins, and Abraham Tilton.

In 1830, the town was asked to appropriate \$100 for the repair of the building in return for using it for town purposes. After considering the subject for six years, it appropriated \$50, and the society raised \$15.15 for the same purpose. About 1849, the town finished off the second story for a town hall; but the original arrangement of pews in the gallery was not disturbed. At the same time, the society laid a tax of four cents on the dollar on the price of the pews, thereby raising \$77.16,

the most of which was used in repairing the first story of the building. In 1861, the town was asked to clapboard and paint the upper part of the house "down as far as they apply."

In 1881, this historic building was cut down one story, reduced in length about twenty feet, the roof turned round, and the church made into a modern chapel, suited to the wants of the reduced population. The sounding board was preserved by placing it over the single entrance to the building. The building is now used only as a town hall and for occasional religious meetings.

In 1838, what was designated and known as the Second Free Baptist Church in Bridgewater was organized in the east part of the town and a church edifice was erected on the river road. This society never had a settled pastor, but had preaching on Sundays as opportunity offered. Frequent supplies were the professors and students of the theological school at New Hampton. In 1855, a membership of fifty-one was reported. James Brown and Luther Barrett were the deacons. This church was dropped from the rolls of the denomination in 1881, and the building was sold and torn down in 1882.

For a series of years, there have been religious services at Union hall, near Newfound lake, a portion of the time, and occasional services in the chapel, while in the north part of the town, near the Plymouth line, the people gather at the brick schoolhouse on Sundays for Sunday-school and social meetings. There is now, however, no organized religious society of any denomination in town.



## CHAPTER XXIII

### ECCLESIASTICAL — THE METHODIST CHURCH

'Tis the divinity that stirs within us ;  
'Tis Heaven itself that points out an hereafter,  
And intimates eternity to man.

—*Addison.*

In the closing years of the eighteenth century, the Methodist itinerant pressed his way into the wilds of New Hampshire. In 1796, Rev. Jesse Lee was presiding elder of a district that embraced nearly the whole of New England. That year, the Methodists of New Hampshire numbered sixty-eight persons.

In 1798, Chesterfield circuit appears, embracing the whole of the state, with Rev. Elijah Bachelor as circuit-rider. That year, the membership was reported as one hundred and twenty-two. In 1800, this state was divided into three circuits — Chesterfield, Landaff, and Hawke and had a membership of two hundred and twenty-four.<sup>1</sup>

In 1801, there were four circuits in New Hampshire — Hawke, in the New England conference ; and Chesterfield, Hanover, and Landaff, in the New London district of the New York conference, which, at that time extended from New York to the Canadian line and was in charge of Rev. John Brodhead as presiding elder. In these four circuits were seven circuit-riders.

In 1801, Mr. Brodhead sent Rev. Asher Smith, who had been laboring at Athens and Townsend, Vt., to Bridgewater and adjoining towns. Mr. Smith evidently made Bristol village, then known as Bridgewater village, his headquarters. He labored with much zeal, and organized that season a class of seven persons, consisting of Jonathan Ingalls and wife, Joseph Prescott, Jonathan Huntington and wife, Susan Cheney, and Hannah Worthen, all persons of marked individuality. Mr. Prescott lived on Bridgewater hill. He was a man of influence, a leader of thought in the community. He was converted under the preaching of Asher Smith, and "came out so happy that he traveled the streets shouting, 'It is the power of God.' Some attempted to silence him but he overawed them, saying, 'If you molest me God Almighty will strike you dead.' " He doubt-

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<sup>1</sup>The year-book for that year reported only two circuits in New Hampshire, having a membership of one hundred and seventy-one ; but Landaff, which had a membership of fifty-three, was erroneously reported as a part of Vermont.

less believed what he said. Father Prescott continued an active force and power in the Bristol church for sixty years. He died in 1861, aged over ninety-four years. Hannah Worthen lived on the Worthen farm about a mile east of Central square. She was a woman of great force of character. At a meeting in the chapel on one occasion, years later, after listening to sermons by two sons who had entered the ministry, she followed in exhortation, as was customary in those days, and she then declared she had consecrated these sons to the Lord before they were born, thus showing her deep piety many years before the coming of the Methodist itinerant to Bridgewater. At her house, for seven years, the class met without a break. She was spared to this church for thirty-two years, and saw not only two sons but one grandson in the Christian ministry. Jonathan Huntington and wife lived in what is now known as the Hall, or Nelson, neighborhood. They were both illiterate and superstitious. Before his conversion, though noted for his profanity and intemperance, he gladly opened his house for those ministers who occasionally visited his neighborhood previous to the coming of the Methodists. Whether he professed religion on the preaching of Asher Smith or at a previous date, is not known; but he promptly identified himself with the new sect and became a marvel of grace. He clung to his superstitions but not to his sins. His quaint sayings often embodied great truths or fine illustrations that he himself seemed to fail to fully comprehend. Mrs. Susan Cheney was the wife of Daniel Cheney and resided on High street. She was an active worker in the church as late as 1830. Concerning her, the late ex-Governor Berry said: "She was the most godly woman I ever knew." Jonathan Ingalls resided on what is now the E. T. Pike farm on the east side of Newfound lake. Both Mr. Ingalls and his wife were noted as frank, outspoken characters. They continued active workers in the church till they removed to the West, thirty years later.

Such were the individuals who organized a Methodist class in this village in 1801, laying broad and deep the foundations of Methodism. After the organization, three more joined the ranks of the seven, and the number reported in the spring of 1802 was ten.

At the session of the New York conference in 1802, the Vershire district was formed. This district consisted of eight circuits in Vermont and New Hampshire, and Rev. John Brodhead was placed in charge as presiding elder. Within this district the Bridgewater circuit was formed, composed of thirteen towns, — Bridgewater, Hill, Andover, Salisbury, Danbury, Alexandria, Hebron, Groton, Plymouth, Holderness, New Hampton, Sanbornton, and Northfield. It also included the present towns of Ashland, Tilton, and Franklin. Rev. Reuben Jones became its

circuit-rider, and, at the close of the year, reported a gain of forty-four members in the circuit.

In 1803, the Bridgewater circuit became a part of the Vermont district of the New York conference. Rev. Joseph Crawford was presiding elder, and Rev. Elijah Hedding, the circuit-rider. This was the first appointment of Elijah Hedding, later the noted bishop of the M. E. church; and he here gave promise of his brilliant future. He entered on the work with great zeal and faith, and a remarkable revival was the result. Years later, Mr. Hedding said to his biographer concerning these times, "I never before nor since have seen such marks of an overwhelming and sweeping revival of the work of God. So deeply were the people interested to hear the preaching that often we were driven to a barn or grove, that they might be accommodated; and so wholly absorbed were they about their soul's concern that the scattered population would collect on week days, men in harvest-time coming on horseback ten or fifteen miles to hear the Word. The whole country seemed to think and talk about nothing but what they must do to be saved." Mr. Hedding usually rode one hundred miles each week preaching twice each day to complete his appointments. Under such severe labors, he broke down and had a long and severe sickness at the home of Maj. Theophilus Sanborn on New Chester mountain. Before fully recovered, he rode to Plymouth, took cold and was again prostrated, this time with inflammatory rheumatism. This sickness was at the home of Rev. Ebenezer Blodgett, who was later a local preacher of this church. For six weeks, he was unable to turn himself in bed, and, for four months, not able to walk across the floor unaided.

In 1804, New Hampshire became a district in the New England conference, and was divided into five circuits — Lunenburg, Landaff, Bridgewater, Hanover, and Grantham. Rev. John Brodhead was presiding elder. Rev. Caleb Dustin and Rev. Lewis Bates were the circuit-riders of Bridgewater circuit. Mr. Dustin was illiterate; Mr. Bates was educated; yet the two men worked harmoniously in a common cause. Mr. Bates was later the author of *Memorials of Methodism*. Here he says, "I was sent to Bridgewater circuit with Caleb Dustin. How many were converted we know not, but we had an addition of one hundred and thirteen, and so extended was the field of our labors that we called to our aid Langdon Simpson and Erastus Otis, and at the next conference two new circuits were formed — Tuftonboro and Pembroke." In 1805, Rev. Martin Ruter and Rev. Benjamin Bishop were the preachers in charge. As with Mr. Hedding, so with Mr. Ruter—the work on this circuit brought out the sterling qualities of the man. Rev. Martin Ruter was born in Sutton, Mass., in 1785. When sixteen years of age, he was given work by John Brodhead as an itinerant minister in Canada, making

his headquarters in Montreal. When twenty years old, he commenced work on Bridgewater circuit. Four years later, he was the presiding elder in charge, and under his labors and directions Methodism flourished. He was a man of indomitable energy, deep piety, and rare good judgment. In educational work, he was the acknowledged pioneer in the Methodist church. His establishment of a Methodist seminary, in 1817, at Newmarket was attended with such success that, three years later, the General Conference took steps to secure the establishment of a like seminary in every conference in the connection. Three years later, he was made the first agent of the Western (Methodist) Book Concern, and there laid the foundations for a business that now counts its annual profits by the hundreds of thousands. He next became a college president, and later went to Texas, where he became a leader in the American colonization movement while still preaching the gospel with all his old-time zeal and enthusiasm. He died in 1838, at the age of fifty-three years. Rev. John Brodhead was born in Smithfield, Pa., in 1770; joined the itinerant ministry in 1794; came to New England in 1796. He was a man of imposing presence, of unblemished character and great personal magnetism, and an eloquent and powerful speaker. He served six terms in the state senate and represented New Hampshire four years in the national house of representatives. His privations and herculean labors in the ministry broke down his health from which he never fully recovered. He died at South Newmarket, Apr. 7, 1838, after forty-four years in the ministry. His portrait now hangs in the state-house in Concord.

Thus we find in the early years of the Bridgewater circuit three of the great men of Methodism as leaders — Revs. Brodhead, Hedding, and Ruter. To no other three men does Methodism in this section owe so much. Rev. John Brodhead introduced it and for six years was connected officially with the work as presiding elder; while Revs. Hedding and Ruter each served one year as pastor, and two as presiding elder.

In 1806, came Rev. Joel Winch, with his marked peculiarities; next year, Rev. Joseph Farrar; in 1808, Rev. William Hunt. Mr. Hunt was but twenty-one years of age, and this was his second appointment. He was brilliant and attractive, and his work was marked with success. His career ended with his death two years later.

In 1809, under the labors of Rev. Leonard Frost, assisted by Presiding Elder Ruter, a marked revival of religion prevailed, and it is said that in Bridgewater, New Hampton, and Plymouth, at least two hundred were converted.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> A favorite place for baptizing by the early Methodists was at the dam that supplied the first grist- and saw-mill with water, near the head of what is now Water street.



In the spring of 1811, Rev. Solomon Sias took up the work as presiding elder, and received for the labor of the year, beyond his board and traveling expenses, one dollar and four cents. The membership of the district was then two hundred and eighty-seven.

Thus far, the Methodists had had no house of worship. Meetings were held in dwellings, in barns, or in groves, as was most convenient. In Bristol village, meetings were generally held in the little four-roofed schoolhouse on North Main street. There was no provision for a fire, and at first no floor; but here the people used to gather and listen to two long sermons on Sunday, or whenever preaching service was announced. This building was finally provided with a floor and furnished with the high back seats common in schoolhouses of that day. After having used this schoolhouse for some time, opposition to its use by the Methodists arose. One Sunday morning the congregation, on assembling, found the door fastened and a number of roughs inside who stated that they proposed to prevent any service being held there that day. It chanced that Maj. Theophilus Sanborn, a veteran of the Revolutionary war, a man of great strength, soon appeared on the scene. Placing his shoulder against the door the fastenings gave way, and those inside made a hasty exit by way of the windows, and services were held as usual.

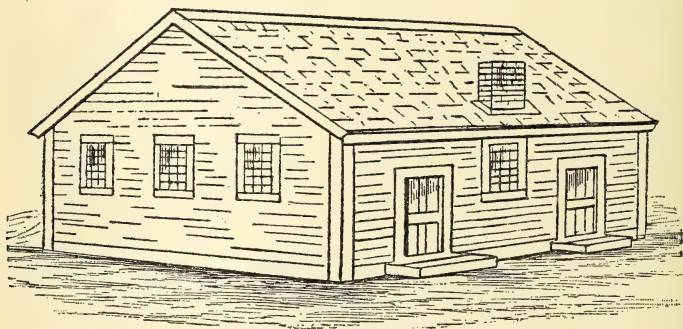
On the twenty-second of April, 1814, the trustees<sup>1</sup> bought of John Sleeper for twenty dollars, a half acre of land on North Main street, at the base of Sugar hill, as a building site; and there a chapel was erected the following summer. The building was about thirty-six by forty feet, and when first used it had only a rough floor and was without any means of warming except the foot stoves carried there by those who could afford the luxury. The Congregationalists contributed towards its erection, and, from the first, their ministers occasionally occupied its desk. The regulation box pews were placed along the walls for those who could pay for them, while free seats made of rough plank filled the center. In this condition it was used about ten years. It was then completed. A chimney was built and a small box stove set up between the pulpit on the east side and the front seats. The low ceiling would not allow of the high pulpit so common in those days, and so, by force of circumstances, this was quite a modern affair. The arrangements for warming the house were made without much opposition; but, in process of time, another innovation came that caused much spirited disputation — a bass viol was taken into church

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<sup>1</sup> The trustees at this date were Benjamin Locke, John Clough, Joseph Prescott, Abraham Hook, Jonathan Ingalls, Jr., Moses Worthen, Walter Sleeper, Theophilus Sanborn, Jr., and Joseph Lowell.

to assist the singers. Many did not believe in worshipping God with a "fiddle"; but the obnoxious instrument held its ground until displaced by one more modern.

This chapel was the scene of many glorious meetings, especially on quarterly meeting occasions, when it was packed to overflowing, many traveling long distances to attend. The scene about the church on such an occasion was worthy the artist's pencil. There were the old-fashioned thoroughbrace chaise, the farm wagon, the horse saddled to carry double. In winter there were sleighs, pungs and pods and even ox-sleds. Many came from distant parts of the district the day before. N. S. Berry always had an open house for the ministers and some of the brethren, while others were entertained elsewhere. At 9 o'clock Sunday there was the love-feast; at 10:30, preach-



CHAPEL BUILT IN 1814.

ing, and at 1 o'clock another sermon, followed by exhortations and the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. A prayer-meeting was held Sunday evening. One old lady, in talking of those days, said, "On one occasion when I was young, a storm made many late at the love-feast, though it did not lessen the numbers in attendance. The doors were closed as usual promptly at nine. The fire of devotion burned warmly in the house and was communicated to the gathering crowd outside. The shouts of victory of those inside were taken up and repeated by those in waiting. When the doors were opened, a combined shout went up to Heaven, 'Hallelujah, for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.' " Here, too, amens and hallelujahs frequently emphasized the preaching of the Word; and exhortations following the sermons were frequent. It is said that "Father" Huntington was ex-

postulated with at one time on the ground that his interjections were not always appropriate. He agreed to do better, but it was not long after, under the preaching of the Word, he warmed up as usual, and, after vainly attempting to hold his fire, exclaimed, in a loud voice, "Amen, hit or miss. Here you have it, period or no period." Watch-night was generally observed and largely attended. After listening to two or three sermons, as the new year dawned, all bowed in silent prayer, and thus the new year was commenced with sacred vows to spend the year in the service of God.

A source of constant trouble to the worshippers here was the presence of "Molly" Burton. She was an eccentric character, commonly called, and by many actually supposed to be, a witch. She persisted in talking in meeting at the close of the sermons, to the great annoyance of all. It occasionally happened that after Molly had spoken as long as was thought profitable, the singers would rise and with all gravity commence to sing. On such occasions the speaker would raise her voice to a higher pitch; the singers would sing louder, and Molly, after delivering a few sentences at the height of her voice, would, from sheer exhaustion, take her seat. On one occasion, she was carried bodily from the church by two or three of the male members, even though she persisted in declaring that an angel of the Lord met her on her way to church and commanded her to exhort.

The first camp-meeting in Bristol was held on the Worthen farm about a mile east of Central square, in 1816. Rev. Leonard Frost, the circuit-rider, preached a sermon of great power, from the text, "How oft would I have gathered you together," etc. Rev. David Kilburn, who had been presiding elder for four years previous to 1818, said of those years: "There were extensive revivals, abundant labors, and meagre support."

In 1822, the name of the circuit was changed to the Bristol circuit. It then consisted of Bristol, New Hampton, Plymouth, Bridgewater, Alexandria, Hill, Danbury, and Andover. The quarterly conferences were held in various parts of the circuit, and the members in this village thought it no great hardship to travel to Andover or Plymouth to attend. Like efforts were made to attend the other services of the church. Miss Mary Worthen used to walk from her home on the New Hampton side of the Pemigewasset to Worthen's rock, there paddle her canoe across the stream, and walk another mile to attend meeting in the old chapel.

People were frank and plain hearted and gave expression to their thoughts in those days, even in meetings. On one occasion, a minister, while holding a service in the schoolhouse at the foot of the lake, prayed standing. In his prayer he used the expression, "On bended knees of faith," when Mrs. Jonathan Ingalls spoke out, "Why not on bended knees of your



body?" On another occasion, Rev. Reuben Dearborn was preaching in the schoolhouse in the Hall neighborhood. In commencing his sermon he said, "Brethren, I need my notes," whereupon "Father" Huntington sang out, "If you can't preach without notes you had better quit." "The notes that I need," said Dearborn, "are the prayers of God's people," and he went along as though nothing unusual had happened. By way of showing the force of "Father" Huntington's illustrations the following is given: On one occasion he was urging the young converts to speak and used substantially these words: "Now don't hold back because you cannot speak as well as the ministers and those who have been longer in the way. When the head of the house wants a great fire in the fireplace he speaks to the boys and they all start. The big boys bring in the great backlog; other boys bring in the forestick and place that on the handiron; others pile on lighter wood, and then comes the little tot with chips and shavings and puts them on the coals and at once the whole mass is on fire. Now the father thinks just as much of the little tot for bringing the shavings as he does of the big boys who brought in the backlog."

In 1830, the New Hampshire and Vermont conference was set off from the New England conference. At this time, Bristol became a part of the Plymouth district. In 1832, the name of the conference was changed to the New Hampshire conference, without a change in its territory. This continued till 1845, when that part of the conference in Vermont became the Vermont conference.

"Reformation" John Adams came here in 1829 in company with Rev. Caleb S. Beede.<sup>1</sup> In 1832, the first parsonage was erected. It is now a part of the house owned by Uriah H. Kidder and now occupied by David M. Chase on the west side of North Main street, near Sugar hill.

June 23, 1818, the Methodist society of Bridgewater was incorporated by act of the legislature. The incorporators were Robert Brown, Joseph Fowler, Moses Bennett, Theophilus Sanborn, Joseph Lowell, Walter Sleeper, and their associates. There are no records and no traditions to show that the society ever organized under this act. On the fifteenth day of December, 1834, "sundry individuals, members of the M. E. church in Bristol," met at the house of N. S. Berry and "voted to resolve themselves into a religious society, agreeable to an act passed the third of June, 1827, and to style themselves the First Methodist Society of Bristol." This body evidently corresponded to the board of trustees as now organized, and was the legal body of the Methodist church. Its officers were a president, secretary, treasurer, and five trustees, elected by the

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<sup>1</sup> See Genealogies.



society. It continued its organization till 1851. The articles of association were signed by the following: C. S. Beede, S. S. Worthing, C. H. Kimball, A. Brown, Benjamin Cass, Clark Merrill, Reuben C. Bean, Reuben Kidder, Amos Sleeper, N. S. Berry, S. T. W. Sleeper, Walter Sleeper, Daniel Sleeper, Jeremiah Johnson, John Ladd, 2nd, Oscar F. Fowler, E. F. Nealey.

In 1827, when Revs. Matthew and Richard Newhall were the preachers in charge, and Rev. John F. Adams was the presiding elder, a great awakening swept through this section. One of the converts of this revival, only recently gone to her reward, recalled a preaching service one afternoon at the home of Jeremiah Johnson in Bridgewater. A great congregation had gathered, and Richard Newhall preached a sermon of wonderful power from the text, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock." More than two hundred were said to have professed religion as the result of this revival. Rev. Matthew Newhall was born at Claremont, Dec. 3, 1798, the son of John and Abigail Newhall. He joined the New England conference in 1825, and took active work till 1854, when he was superannuated. He died at Greenland, May 4, 1875. He was a brother of his associate, Rev. Richard Newhall, who was born at Weathersfield, Vt., in 1800. Richard Newhall married Betsey Emmons<sup>1</sup> of Bristol, and died Dec. 10, 1872. He filled eight appointments in Vermont and thirteen in New Hampshire.

In 1828, Rev. William Kimball and Rev. Sereno Fisk were the circuit-riders. This year a camp-meeting was held near the Pemigewasset river south of this village. There were thirty-four tents and a very large attendance, and it was a season of great power and very many conversions. Among the clergymen present were Rev. George Storrs, Rev. Squires B. Haskell, and "Reformation" John Adams. The meeting was held there two seasons. In 1831 and 1832, camp-meetings were held in a grove on the Gilbert B. Dolloff farm in Bridgewater. One was held later near George's mills in Alexandria, and one, in 1846, on the Thomas H. Wicom farm in Bristol.

In 1837, Rev. James Dow<sup>2</sup> and Rev. Amos H. Worthen,<sup>1</sup> were on this circuit. The year appears to have been fairly prosperous in some portions of the district at least, with forty-seven additions, and yet it closed with the church at Bristol depressed to an unusual degree, and its spirituality at a low ebb.

Rev. Holman Drew<sup>3</sup> and Rev. Moody P. Marshall<sup>1</sup> came in

<sup>1</sup> See Genealogies.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. James Dow was born in Bath, Oct. 27, 1802. He joined the New Hampshire conference in 1832, and continued in the active work till he died, Dec. 21, 1844.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Holman Drew joined the New Hampshire conference in 1829, and was in the effective ranks till 1846, when he took a superannuated relation. He died at Landaff, July 2, 1846, aged forty-six years.

the spring of 1838. They found the people discouraged and the prospect extremely gloomy. They were informed by one of the retiring pastors that he should not be surprised to hear at any time that the church had ceased to exist. They were called upon by the official members, who wished to define their position. They said they had no objection to the men sent here, but the church could not support them. They should take no part in church matters, should resign their positions, do nothing and pay nothing. There was a debt of forty dollars on the parsonage. There was a time when it could have been paid, but that time had passed. Their church edifice was dilapidated, and a new one could not be built. Such was the greeting the new pastors received. These brethren were persuaded to remain in office for the time being and trust in God for the result. The pastors went to work with wisdom, zeal, and energy worthy the men and their high office. The result was, the people were brought out of the slough of despond, the debt on the parsonage was paid during the year, and the next year a new church was erected; every slip in it was sold before the church was erected and the edifice was dedicated free from debt.

The old chapel vacated at this time filled a unique place in the history of this village. It was the first and for many years the only public building within the limits of the town. It furnished a place for the stated worship of God, and for many years all denominations contributed towards its support and united in its services. Within its walls were organized both the Congregational and Free Baptist churches of this village. Here were held many of the town meetings of Bridgewater, and here Bristol held all of its town meetings till the present town hall was completed, in 1850. Its doors were open for political speakers of either party, and even the much-hated abolition agitators were welcomed to its pulpit. Here, in 1836, Rev. George Storrs was mobbed for speaking against slavery; stones were hurled through the windows, the meeting broken up, and the speaker was saluted with rotten eggs while being escorted from the church by three citizens—Reuben C. Bean, Dr. J. S. Eaton, and Appleton Danforth. Mr. Bean kept the speaker over night, and the next day he was informed by one of the rioters that they came near tearing his house down for sheltering him. "If you had," said Mr. Bean, "there would have been several funerals in Bristol." On reflection, this same man was so ashamed of the part he had taken in the affair that he had the windows of the chapel repaired at his own expense. In its old age, this chapel was venerated by those who knew its history, but was pelted with stones and clubs by the boys.

The new chapel was erected on Spring street at an estimated cost of \$1,600. There were forty-nine pews besides seats for the singers and the front seats; and the price of the pews

was, therefore, fixed at \$33. A paper drawn up Jan. 4, 1839, shows that forty-seven of these pews were taken before a blow was struck towards the erection of the church. The following is a list of the subscribers:

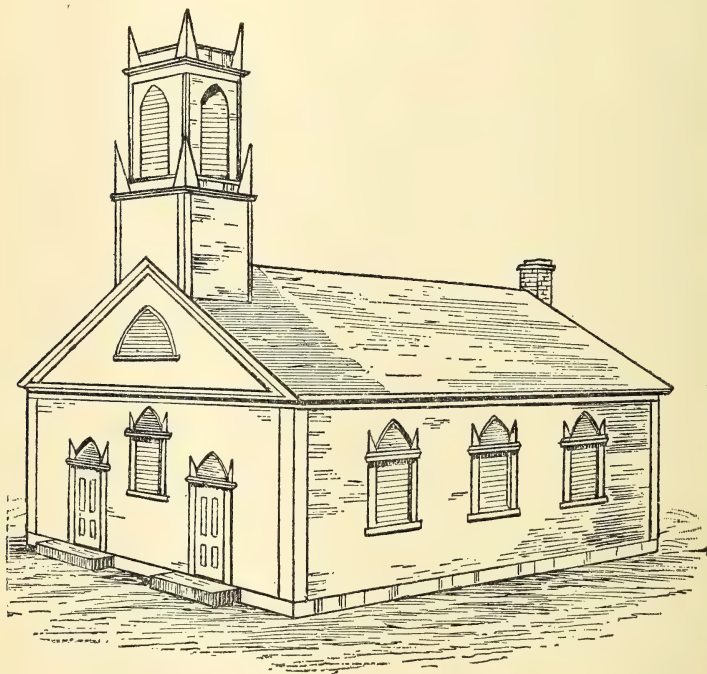
Name	No. of pews	Name	No. of pews
N. S. Berry	3	Warren White	1
S. S. Worthing	2	J. C. Downing	1
O. F. Fowler	2	S. S. Sleeper	1
R. C. Bean	2	H. S. Woolson	1
Alonzo Cheney	1	Dan'l Sanborn	1
Alonzo Hale	1	B. Batchelder	1
S. B. Tilton	1	Jeremiah Johnson	1
J. H. Sanborn	1	J. L. Wier	1
Solomon Cavis	1	John Ladd 2nd 1-2 }	1
Jos'h Ladd	1	D. Kennedy 1-2 }	
Nathan Sleeper, Jr	2	Jonth Emmons 1-3 }	1
Holman Drew	1	D. C. Willey 1-3 }	
Daniel Sanborn	1	Stephen Nelson 1-3 }	
Jacob Heath	1	Samuel Gale	1
Louge Pitman	1	O. S. & Lyman Hall 1-2 }	1
J. H. Prescott	1	D. H. Sleeper 1-2 }	
Clark Merrill	1	Benjamin Kidder Jr	1
John Kidder	1	Huldah Atwood }	1-2
J. S. Bryant	1	Sally Tyrrell }	
David Fowler }	1	Joshua Kidder }	1-3
M. H. Page }		Benjamin Kidder }	
Moses Sleeper	1	Walter Hayward }	
S. T. W. Sleeper	1	J. R. Hayward }	1
Eliza Ann Harriman	1	John Hastings	1

One-third of the price of the pews was to be paid when the frame of the building was raised; one-third when the building was boarded and shingled, and the other third when completed, which was expected to be about the first of October. The choice of pews was set up at auction, and the avails of the sale were used for furnishing the church. The deed for the land was given Feb. 11, 1839; ground was broken in the early spring, and the church was dedicated in September following, Rev. John G. Dow preaching the dedicatory sermon. N. S. Berry and Sherburn Sanborn were the building committee. The chapel was 40 x 52 feet, with posts seventeen feet high. As in the old chapel, there was but one room, the doors opening directly into it. There were three large windows on each side, and one in front between the two doors, where the pulpit was located. In each corner, at the right and left of the pulpit, was a small box stove which was connected with a chimney on the north end by a line of funnel extending the entire length of the church. The seats were on the amphitheater style, those in the rear being well up toward the ceiling. The "singing seats" consisted of three slips, at the highest point opposite the pulpit, extending from aisle to aisle, elevated still higher than those on

the right and left. For nine years previous to the dedication of this church, Mr. Berry's kitchen had been used for all social meetings, but thereafter sabbath evening meetings were held in the new chapel.

The year 1839 marked not only the erection of the chapel on Spring street, but also the establishment of camp-meetings on Alexandria hill, west of this village, which was continued nearly every year till 1856. The site was near the

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CHAPEL BUILT IN 1839.

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Bristol road on the summit of the hill. Mr. Marshall said, in regard to this meeting: "It was a season of great power and manifestation of the Holy Spirit. The last night was wholly spent in earnest prayer, and, when the last seeker yielded, there followed such a season of shouting as I never heard before nor since. A young man, living a quarter of a mile away, while in



bed listening to it, was convicted and converted." In 1841, during the labors of Rev. Reuben Dearborn and Rev. Henry H. Hartwell, the location was changed to one farther west in the same grove. This was, like all others, largely attended and was a season of great interest. It is claimed that this year three hundred and fifty from Bristol and adjoining towns were converted. Millerism was at this time at its height. All good people were going to glory in 1843 without the trouble of dying, and a part of one song sung more than any other at this meeting was,

In eighteen hundred forty-three  
My blessed Jesus I shall see.

But 1843 came and went, and nearly all the singers of that day have passed over the river, but by the ordinary way, a few only being left to tell of the peculiar craze that swept over the country at that time.

The camp-meetings of those days were rude affairs, with none of the comforts of the modern camp-ground. The usual custom was for each family interested to furnish a portion of the cotton cloth of which the tent was made, and at a meeting held by the ladies for that purpose the cloth was sewed together and the covering was completed. In due time, this tent was "pitched" by the men on a frame of rough poles cut in the woods for the purpose. Of course this covering leaked badly during a rain storm or hard shower, but this was one of the inconveniences to be expected, and was borne with composure. A long table of rough boards extended through the center of the tent on which were served the meals, consisting largely of cooked food brought from home, while tea and coffee were made on a fire outside. The earth in the tents was covered deep with straw. Beds, at night, were made on this or on bedticks, filled with straw, laid on the ground. The tent at night was divided by curtains into two apartments, one for the men and one for the women. During the day the bedticks were piled in one corner. At the close of the meeting, the tent was taken down, the cloth ripped into strips and taken home by the several owners.

These camp-meetings were great events among the Methodists. God was worshipped with greater fervor and intensity, if with no more sincerity, than now. The sermons and exhortations were earnest and vivid, and appealed to one's danger rather than to his duty. The social meetings were marked with great fervor of feeling, and the "loss of strength" was a frequent manifestation, especially during the last night of the meeting, which was largely spent in prayer by the worshippers. One of the peculiar rules of this meeting was that the men and women must be seated separately in the public congregations, and so strict were the authorities in enforcing the rule that on one occasion when a man and his wife with an infant in arms ventured

to take seats together, the presiding elder arose in the desk and stated that such a thing could not be tolerated. During the fifties, the Alexandria camp-meeting was one of the largest in the state, and was attended by people and societies from a great distance. There were usually tents from Manchester, Nashua, Lowell, and Boston. When Rev. H. H. Hartwell was pastor of the Elm Street church in Manchester, he came with a party of one hundred. Nearly half this number were non-professors when they came, but all were professed Christians when they returned. Many hundreds here commenced the Christian life, among them Rev. E. R. Wilkins of the New Hampshire conference. The leading spirits in the maintenance of this meeting were the presiding elders and circuit-riders of the district, and members of the local church, among them Col. O. F. Fowler, Abram Dolloff, Aaron Kidder, Jonathan Emmons, Jacob N. Darling who usually kept the boarding tent, Rev. Caleb S. Beede, and Rev. Walter Sleeper.

The prosperity of 1838 and 1839 was continued under the labors of Rev. Reuben Dearborn<sup>1</sup> and Rev. John Evelith in 1840, and of Mr. Dearborn and Rev. Henry H. Hartwell in 1841, and thirty-six additions were made to the church during these two years. In 1842, there was another season of depression under Rev. J. C. Cromack. He was carried away with the Millerite doctrine of the day, and carried most of the church with him. The burden of thought, of conversation, and of the themes of the pulpit was the immediate coming of Christ. Crops were left ungathered, business was neglected, and strong minds lost their balance. The excitement of the public was intense. Fortunately for the church and the community, in the spring of 1843, Rev. Nathaniel W. Aspenwall was sent here. Under his prudent and wise guidance public excitement was allayed, and gradually the church cast off the false teachings and theories of the hour. At the commencement of his pastorate, the Bristol church became a station. Mr. Aspenwall<sup>2</sup> was succeeded by Rev. Lewis Howard,<sup>2</sup> Rev. C. L. McCurdy,<sup>2</sup> Rev. A. C. Manson,<sup>2</sup> Rev. Calvin Holman,<sup>2</sup> and, in 1853, Rev. Samuel Kelley. All were good men, capable and discreet, and under their leadership the church had nine years of prosperity. In 1850, the society purchased a dwelling for a parsonage, on Spring street, and, in 1851, the New Hampshire annual conference was held with this church with much profit to the people.

Rev. Newell Culver<sup>2</sup> commenced, in 1859, a pastorate of two years, and the second year the chapel on Spring street was

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<sup>1</sup> Rev. Reuben Dearborn was born in Loudon, Feb. 14, 1809, and died at Salem, Nov. 3, 1890. He became a member of the New Hampshire conference in 1835, and was in the effective ranks for forty years, including six years as presiding elder. He was one of the strong men of his day and left his impress on his native state.

<sup>2</sup> See Genealogies.

enlarged and remodeled. An addition was made on the front, affording room for a pipe organ. The floor was relaid on a level, the pulpit located in the north end, and the seats were turned around. This change added ten pews and cost \$900. About 1865, the first pipe organ was placed in the church.

In 1866, the conference sent Rev. James Thurston to be pastor of this church. His pastorate covered three years of perfect harmony between pastor and people, and these relations were severed only because of the expiration of the time limit. Mr. Thurston was born in Buxton, Me., Mar. 12, 1816, and died in Dover, Sept. 15, 1899, after sixty-one years in the Christian ministry. He was a member of the house of representatives in 1885, was twice chaplain of the house, and was a member and chaplain of the state constitutional convention of 1889. At the time of his death, he had been a Mason for fifty-four years. He was a man of rare gifts, symmetrical character, genial, of deep piety and interest in his fellowmen, and was greatly beloved by all.

In April, 1869, Rev. A. E. Drew was stationed in Bristol. In August, following, the society bought the present parsonage at a cost of about \$3,000, or \$1,500 above the value of the old. In the fall of this year, occurred a great revival of religion under his labors. More than one hundred and fifty professed religion, thirty-five of whom were heads of families. In fourteen instances husband and wife came together to the altar, and ninety-six were received on probation as the fruit of this work.

On the first of January, 1870, Henry F. Durant came to Bristol as an evangelist and commenced union meetings. Most of the services were held in the Methodist church, and at every service, afternoon and evening, the church was filled with an earnest audience. Over four hundred presented themselves at the altar for prayers. The fruit of this revival was about equally divided among the three churches.

Prosperity attended the society during all the time it occupied this chapel, and additions were made from year to year. When it finally bade adieu to this edifice for a still more modern one, its membership numbered three hundred and forty-two—the second in numbers in the conference. Following this revival, Mr. Drew agitated the subject of building a new church. He was young and ambitious and infused into the people much of his own zeal. His plan was to build a church costing about \$12,000 and take subscriptions to cover the amount payable in five annual instalments. The subscriptions were to be on interest till paid, thus providing, it was thought, for the accumulation of interest on the debt. The church voted to build at a cost not exceeding \$12,000, provided this amount in pledges could be obtained. The pastor went through the charge and gathered in the fruit of his year's agitation of the subject and



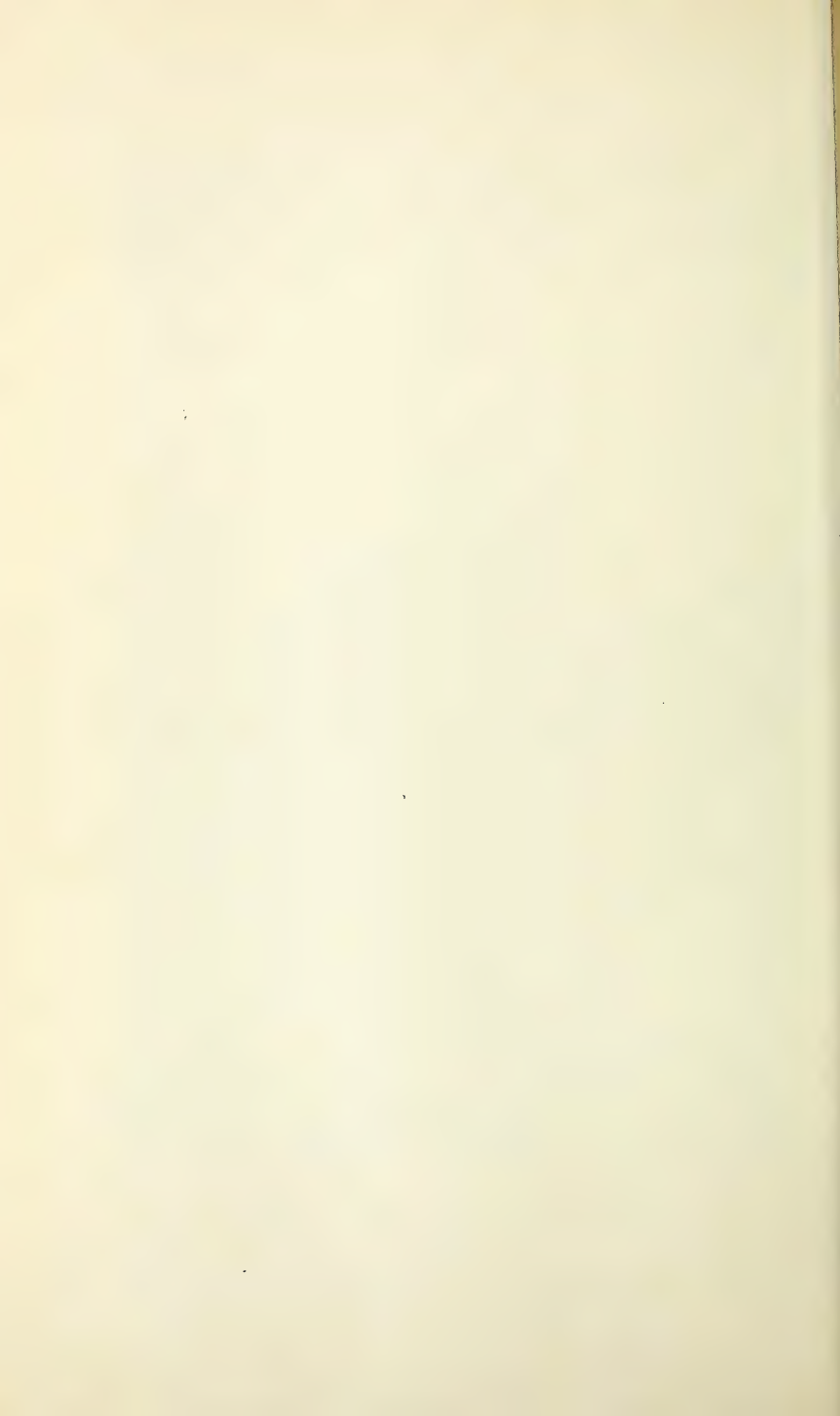
soon reported that the stipulated subscription had been obtained. June 18, 1870, the quarterly conference voted to build a modern Gothic church, provided the whole cost at dedication should not exceed by more than \$1,500 the amount then pledged. William A. Berry, Esq., P. G. Carleton, and Hon. L. W. Fling were elected a building committee. This committee purchased the land and buildings then owned by George W. Dow, on North Main street for \$2,125, and later the old chapel was sold to T. T. Drake for \$1,300, and by him transformed into a dwelling-house. Plans and specifications were furnished by Thomas Silloway, architect, of Boston, Mass., and the contract to do the wood work was let to Messrs. Mead & Mason, of Lebanon. Work was commenced in the spring of 1871, the corner stone being laid May 9. Rev. G. W. Norris, the pastor, conducted the services and Rev. Elisha Adams made an address. The new church was dedicated Feb. 1, 1872, the dedicatory sermon being preached by Rev. Ira G. Bidwell, of the New England conference. This church was 86 x 51 feet, the audience room being 74 x 50 feet. The entrance on the front was by three doors opening into the vestibule. Three or four steps from the vestibule on the right and left led down to the main vestry; and a flight of eight or ten steps on the right and left led to a hall above, from which a door at each of the four aisles afforded entrance to the auditorium. Stairs in the tower led from the hall to the gallery above. There were one hundred and two pews on the main floor and sixteen in the gallery, affording about six hundred and seventy-five sittings. Its broad aisles and ample space in and about the altar when utilized afforded two hundred or more additional sittings. The pulpit was in the east end, the orchestra in the rear of the pulpit, both connected by stairs with the floor below. The vestries occupied the entire first floor and consisted of main vestry, 52 x 48 feet, small vestry for week-day evening meetings, kitchen, pastor's room, library room, and bell room.

In April, following the dedication of this church, the New Hampshire conference held its annual session here, Bishop Janes presiding. The church was a beautiful structure, an ornament to the place and the pride of the society; but its cost had largely exceeded the original intentions and reached with lot and furnishings, \$19,520, not including the bell which cost \$800 — a present from Hon. S. S. Sleeper, S. S. Merrill, and W. H. Abel. The Ladies' society assumed the cost of furnishing the church, amounting to \$2,327; but deducting this amount the society found itself with a debt on its hands of over \$5,000 above original subscriptions. To make matters worse, as time passed, many of the subscriptions became worthless by reason of deaths, removals, and financial embarrassments, interest accumulated, and in January, 1876, this oppressive debt had





METHODIST CHURCH, DEDICATED 1872



reached \$12,000, while the unpaid pledges considered good amounted to less than \$3,000, thus leaving over \$9,000 to be provided for. At this time, Rev. J. M. Durrell was pastor of this church, and he bent his energies to raise by subscription the amount needed to remove this heavy load. One member made his subscription \$3,000, and many others made heroic sacrifices to pay off the debt; and so successful was Mr. Durrell in his efforts that in April, following, the last dollar for which the trustees were responsible was paid and the church debt was declared to be wiped out. But this really was not the last of this church debt. Though the ladies still owed \$100 of the large amount they had assumed on the completion of the building, they stepped forward and paid the last \$1,597 of the debt, borrowing the money for this purpose, that the trustees might be released from further liability. The trustees turned over to the ladies unpaid subscriptions amounting to \$841. The Ladies' society thus had a new debt of large proportions on its hands, and it went to work with renewed energy; and by sociables, dinners and suppers, concerts and other entertainments, ere long had the satisfaction of paying the last dollar of its burden. The debt was paid at last, but no one would dare say that the society has even yet fully recovered from its depressing influence.

James Pike, D. D., assumed the pastoral charge of this church in 1882. Though in poor health, he at once entered upon his work with characteristic thoroughness. In locating the members of his church, he found twenty-two resident in Hill; fifty-four, in Alexandria; twenty-two, in Bridgewater, and thirty-four in Hebron. His two years' labor with this people resulted in adding fifty-four to the membership, and leaving the church stronger than it had been for some years. Dr. Pike was one of God's noblemen. He was a great man in breadth of mind. The purity of his life both public and private was beyond suspicion. He accepted office both civil and military from the same high sense of duty with which he entered the pulpit. Dr. Pike was born in Salisbury, Mass., Nov. 10, 1818. He joined the New Hampshire conference in 1841. He represented his state in the national house of representatives for four years, from 1855, and served nine months in the Union army as colonel of the Sixteenth Regiment N. H. Volunteers. Of his ministerial career, eighteen years were passed as presiding elder. He was a delegate to the General Conference four times. He represented his conference in the Ecumenical Council of Methodist bodies at Cincinnati in 1876, and at the centennial celebration of Methodism in America at Baltimore in 1884. In 1871, he was the Republican nominee for governor of New Hampshire. He died at Newfields, July 27, 1895.

Sunday morning, Feb. 3, 1889, the church was destroyed

by fire. The congregation had assembled for worship as usual; the opening exercises were concluded, and the pastor, Rev. Otis Cole, had announced his text and spoken a sentence or two when fire was discovered under the floor of the orchestra. How the fire originated will never be known, though, when discovered, its proximity to the stove in the vestry under the orchestra fixed the responsibility. All efforts to save the structure were futile. By a singular coincidence the water was shut off from the aqueduct but an hour or so before the fire occurred, to allow repairs to be made on the pipe, and no water was at hand. In a brief space of time all that remained of this beautiful structure was a smoking mass of ruins. The four stately maples in front of the church were also destroyed — an irreparable loss. The piano, settees from the vestry, and other movable furniture were saved. There was an insurance of \$6,000 on the church, which was promptly paid by the insurance companies carrying the risk. The Congregational and Free Baptist churches were promptly and generously placed at the disposal of the Methodists, who, the following Sunday worshipped with the Congregationalists and the next Sunday with the Free Baptists. From this time on, till another church was erected and dedicated, they worshipped in the town hall.

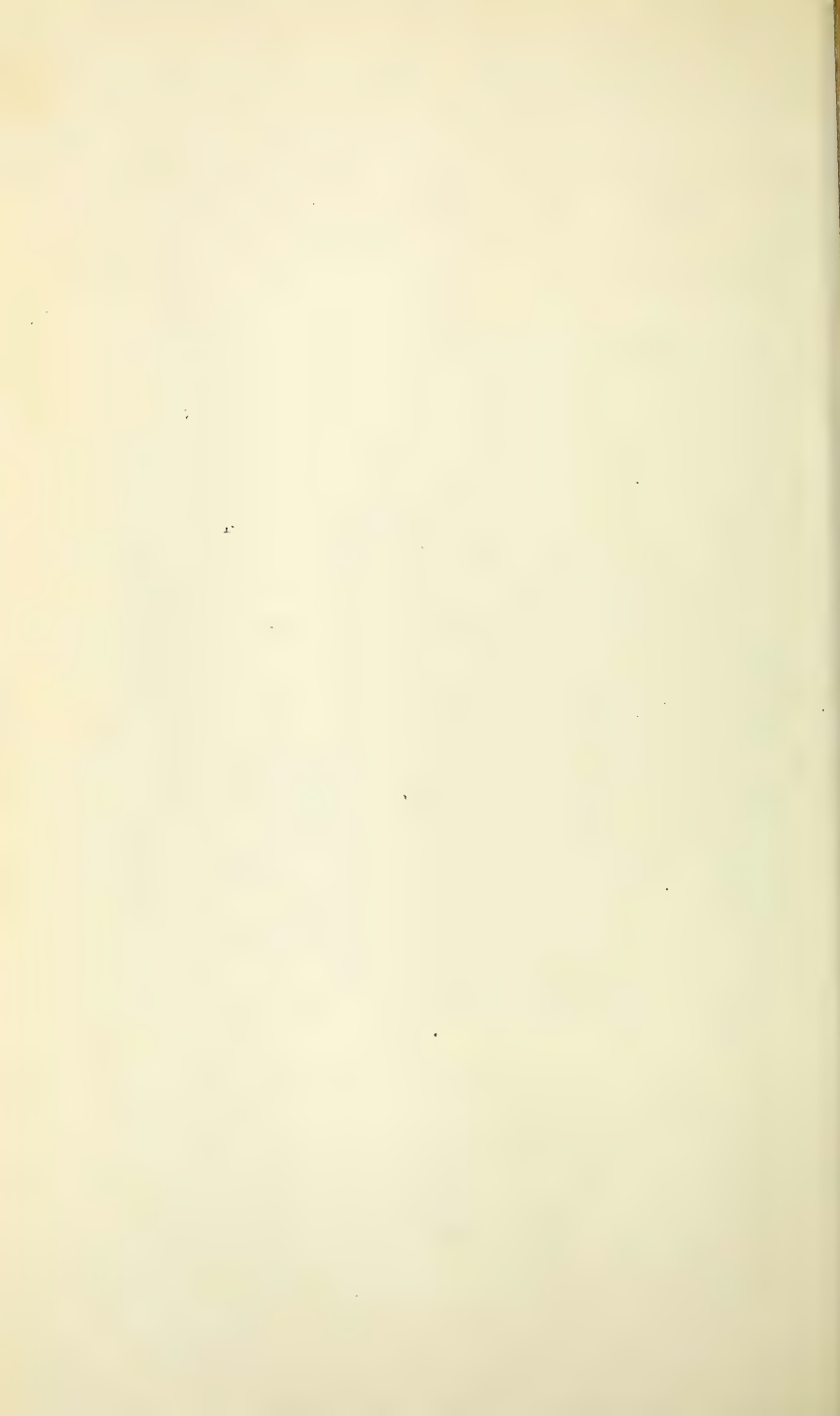
The prospect of rebuilding was discouraging in the extreme, but the subject was agitated at once. The first formal action was taken at a meeting of the society held at the vestry of the Free Baptist church March 13, 1889, when, after a general discussion of the subject, it was voted to build a church with auditorium and vestries on one floor, at a cost of about \$8,000 above the foundation, and that subscriptions be solicited to the amount of \$2,000 to supplement the \$6,000 received from insurance.

At a meeting of the quarterly conference held at the residence of David Mason May 20, following, Rev. Otis Cole, W. A. Berry, and Albion Wells were elected a building committee. This committee was unable to contract the work at satisfactory rates and proceeded to build by day labor, placing the work under the charge of Daniel M. Page, of Tilton, as master workman. The present structure has an extreme measurement of ninety-four feet six inches by fifty-one feet two inches. The audience room, not including orchestra, is fifty-four feet two inches by fifty feet. The pulpit is located in the east end, and for economy of space, is just inside the orchestra line, the orchestra in the rear. The space occupied by the pulpit and orchestra is 12 x 26 feet. In the corner to the right of the orchestra is the organ loft, 12 x 12 feet. The opposite corner is occupied by stairway to basement and passageways to orchestra and platform. Connected with the audience room on the front with folding doors, is a vestry 32 x 26 feet; over the vestry, a parlor of the same size which may be used as a gallery by





METHODIST CHURCH DEDICATED 1890



throwing open a folding partition. There are four entrances. At the northwest corner is a porch nine by five feet eight inches, which opens into a vestibule nineteen feet long and from six to eight feet ten inches in width. This opens in front to the audience room and on the right to the vestry. In the southwest corner is the tower which has an entrance in front and one in the rear from the porte-cochere into a vestibule 22 x 13 feet. From this vestibule is the main entrance to the auditorium and to the vestry on the left. From this also a stairway four feet wide extends to the landing above, five feet four inches by eleven feet, connecting with the parlor. In the northeast corner is an entrance for the pastor and singers.

The tower is fourteen feet square. It is forty-four feet from sill to bell-deck on which is a fine bell weighing 1,720 pounds, recast from the old one. It is eighty feet to top of tower. The height of the audience room is thirty-six feet at the apex. It is finished in cypress and sheathed overhead and also on the sides to the height of about four feet from the floor. The trusses are exposed to view, encased in cypress. The floor and stair-treads are of birch, and all wood-work is finished in its natural color, and a very pleasing effect is thus secured. No carpets are laid except in the walks and on the platform, and the pews, of red oak, are without upholstery. The pews are of varying lengths and placed in a semi-circle, affording three hundred and seventy-five sittings. The vestry will seat one hundred and fifty or more, and the parlor a like number; and when vestry and parlor are opened into the auditorium the capacity of the house is easily carried above seven hundred. The whole building, except the parlor, is heated by a combination steam and hot air furnace, and is lighted with electricity. The entire cost of re-building, including necessary changes in foundation and grading and \$200 for furnishings paid by the ladies, was \$111,000. Hon. S. S. Sleeper, of Boston, contributed \$300; and Hon. L. D. Brown of Philadelphia, \$100. Moses W. Merrill, of Boston, gave \$100 for a pew for the exclusive use of aged persons or strangers.

This church was dedicated June 12, 1890, at 2 o'clock p. m. Bishop R. S. Foster preached; text, Rom. 1:20, and John 1:10; topic, "The Eternity and Omnipotence of God." The dedicatory prayer was offered by Rev. G. W. Norris, presiding elder. Rev. J. E. Robins, Rev. D. J. Smith, and the pastor, Rev. Otis Cole, also assisted in the service. In the evening, at 7:30 o'clock, Rev. W. N. Brodbeck, D.D., preached a sermon from Acts 13; topic, "The Needs of the Church." Rev. G. W. Norris, Rev. Otis Cole, Rev. D. J. Smith, and Bishop Foster assisted in this service. \*

The fine pipe organ, that now does service in this church, was purchased in the spring of 1892, through the efforts of Rev.

R. T. Wolcott, who was pastor here in 1891 and 1892. It has two manuals, six hundred and thirteen pipes, and cost \$1,750.

Under the conditions that existed seventy-five years and more ago, the local preacher filled an important place in the economy of Methodism. He was always ready to supply the pulpit when the circuit-rider could not be present. He did much of the pastoral work of the day, visiting the sick, officiating at funerals, and holding neighborhood meetings. Bristol was greatly blessed for half a century with the presence and services of Rev. Walter Sleeper.<sup>1</sup> His field of work was wherever duty called. He alternated with the circuit-rider in holding meetings in the Locke neighborhood; he was a supply for the church in the Borough, and at South Alexandria. He held services at the foot of the lake, at Alexandria, Bridgewater, and elsewhere. His christian life and disinterested labors made him revered and loved by all. There were many others who labored here for a longer or shorter time.

Rev. James Huckins was a local preacher here in 1829, and was recommended for admission to the annual conference. This same year, the license of Rev. Samuel O. Fletcher was renewed. Rev. Philo Bronson, who was junior preacher on this charge in 1835, was a local preacher here. Rev. Caleb S. Beede, a circuit-rider here in 1829, married Mary Worthen, a granddaughter of Hannah Worthen, of the first class, and later located here, and was for ten years an active local preacher. There were also Rev. Philip C. Bean, Rev. David Powell, Rev. Ebenezer Blodgett, and others. The exhorter was also a valuable assistant of the preacher in charge. In the early years of this church John Clough filled this office with great efficiency and held meetings in the various neighborhoods of the town. Lewis S. Skinner was licensed as an exhorter in 1829, and John Page in 1833. This office has not been filled for many years in this church.

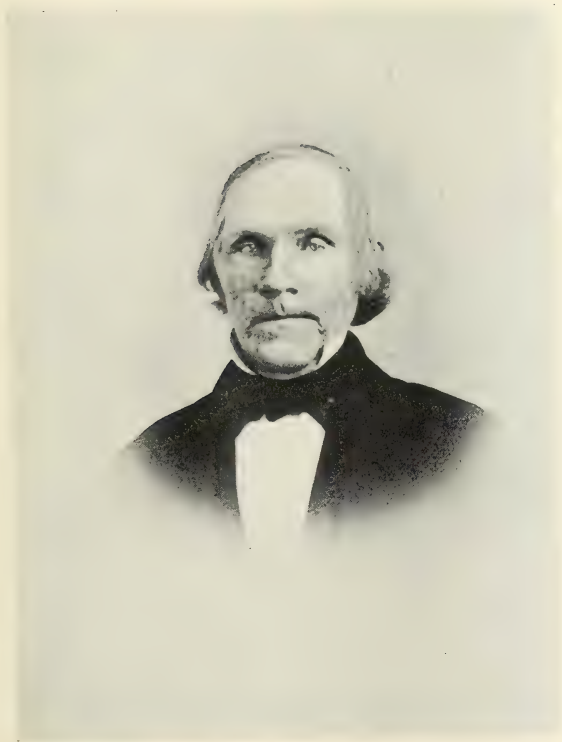
Class-meetings were for many years the spiritual barometers of the church. Every member possessed of spiritual life and power was a weekly attendant at the class-meeting, and an absence of a few months or even weeks was thought to indicate that the person was not fit to be continued as a member of the church. There were large classes at Hill, Alexandria, Hebron, and Bridgewater and in various neighborhoods in town. Benj. Locke was class-leader for many years in the Locke neighborhood,<sup>2</sup> and was succeeded by Jonathan Emmons. Mr. Emmons

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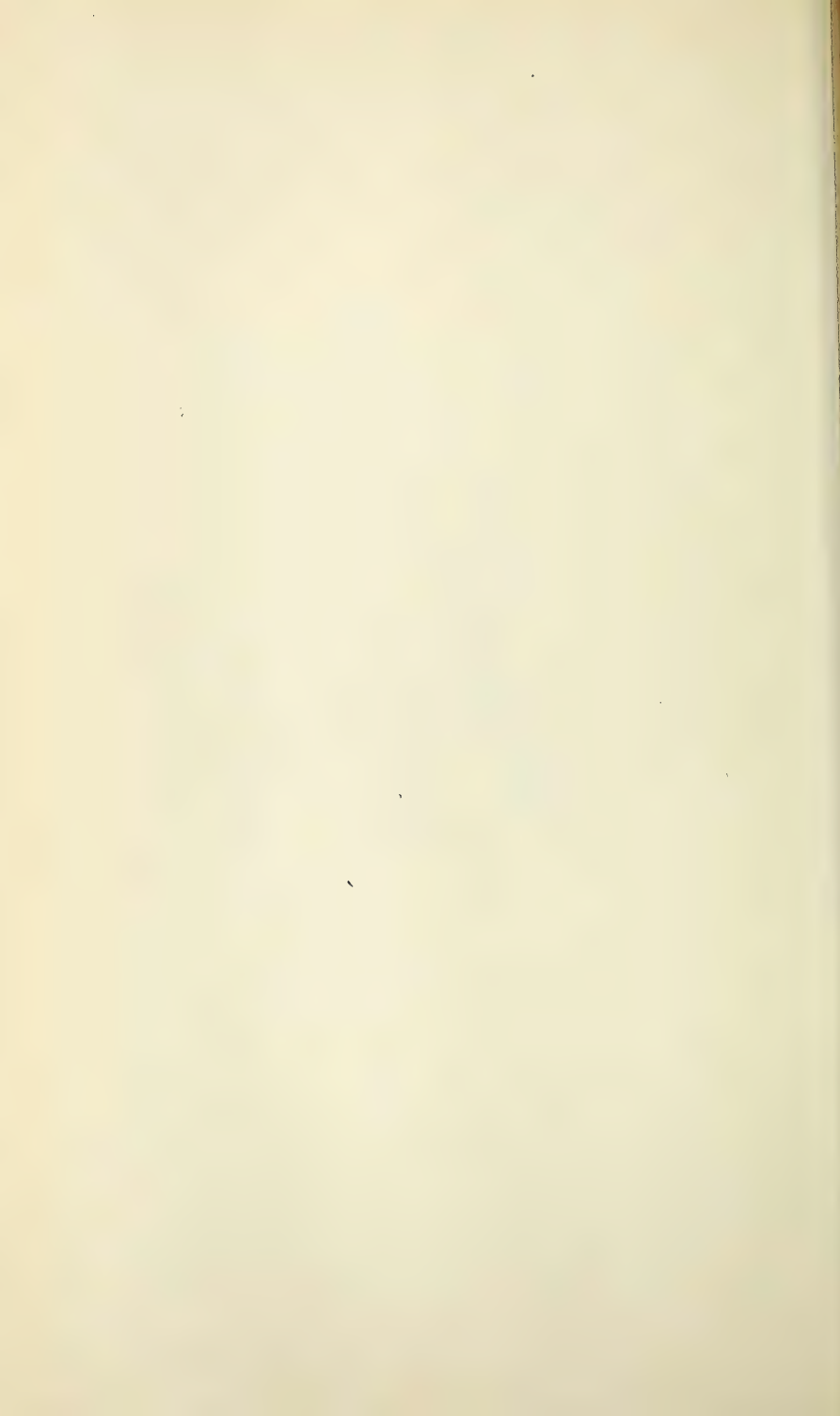
<sup>1</sup> See Genealogies.

<sup>2</sup> For many years, meetings were held about as regularly in the school-house in the Locke neighborhood as at Bristol village. Benj. Locke was a leader. These were the days of the "noisy Methodists," and those who remembered these meetings asserted that the shouting of Mr. Locke and others could be heard at New Hampton village, a mile and a half distant.





REV. WALTER SLEEPER



frequently walked five miles to meet his class, while many of the female members walked three and even four miles to attend. Even as late as 1871, there were seven well-sustained classes in connection with this church, in different parts of the charge. In June of that year, the average attendance of the two classes in Bristol village was over forty each. This meeting has greatly declined in favor among Methodists.

In 1824, Sunday-schools were first established in Bristol by N. S. Berry, Wm. Lewis, and Jonathan Emmons. They were neighborhood schools and undenominational. Mr. Lewis had charge of the school in this village, Mr. Berry of one at the foot of the lake, and Jonathan Emmons one in the Locke neighborhood. Later in this village each church had its school, while neighborhood schools were continued for many years in the out-districts.

Previous to the summer of 1874, the usual Sunday services of the church were, preaching in the morning at 10:30 o'clock; Sunday-school at 12 m.; preaching at 1 o'clock, and prayer-meeting at 5 o'clock or later. In July of this year, in keeping with the trend of the times, the afternoon preaching service was dispensed with in the Methodist and Congregational churches.

The centennial of organized Methodism in Bristol was observed Oct. 22-24, 1901, in connection with a Concord District preachers' meeting. An historical address was given by R. W. Musgrove, and reminiscences by Mrs. Myra S. Judkins. Rev. S. S. Cummings, of Boston; Rev. H. H. Hartwell, Suncook; Rev. Josiah Hooper, Mill Village; Rev. Otis Cole, Haverhill, Mass.; Rev. R. T. Wolcott, Suncook, all former pastors, and Miss Clara Cushman, daughter of Rev. Lewis P. Cushman, a former pastor, were present and had prominent places on the program.

The papers presented at the preachers' meeting were largely of an historical nature. Those who took part, not named above, were Rev. O. S. Baketel, D.D., of Manchester, presiding elder; Rev. A. P. Reynolds, West Thornton; Rev. Wm. Warren, Tilton; Rev. C. U. Dunning, Franklin Falls; Rev. W. M. Cleaveland, Plymouth; Rev. A. L. Smith, Penacook; Rev. R. E. Thompson, Gilford; Rev. Joseph Simpson, Concord; Rev. C. D. Hills, Laconia; Rev. E. C. Strout, Concord; Rev. E. C. E. Dorion, Ashland. The pastor, Rev. L. D. Bragg, had charge of the services. Mrs. L. D. Bragg spoke in behalf of the Woman's Home Missionary society, and Miss Cushman for the Woman's Foreign Missionary society. Rev. J. W. Savage of the Congregational church and Rev. T. J. Winslade of the Free Baptist church also made addresses.

#### SALARIES

The early itinerant preachers had no stipulated salary.

Rev. Elijah Hedding received for the first ten years of his ministry, \$45 per year. Rev. Solomon Sias received for his services in 1811, \$1.04 above his traveling expenses. Rev. David Kilburn, speaking of four years previous to 1818, said "neither preacher nor presiding elder received \$100 per year for his services." In 1838, Rev. Holman Drew was paid as senior preacher on the Bridgewater circuit, \$286.50, and Rev. Moody Marshall, junior preacher, \$103.53. In 1840, Rev. Reuben Dearborn was paid \$320, and his assistant, \$106. When Bristol became a station, in 1843, the salary paid was \$312. One year later it was \$375; in 1852, it was \$400; in 1859, it was \$500; in 1865, it was increased to \$750, and three years later advanced to \$850; in 1870, to \$950. In 1873, the church paid the largest salary in its history — \$1,250. The next three years the salary was \$1,200, and then for two years it was \$1,000; then for a few years the amount paid was \$950. In 1884, it dropped to \$850, and three years later was raised to \$900, where it remained for nine years. In 1896, it again went up to \$1,000, but, in 1901, dropped to \$900. These figures include the use of the parsonage, for which from \$100 to \$200 was charged per year.

#### MEMBERSHIP

The statistics of the early year-books are not entirely reliable, but they furnish the only available source of information concerning the membership of this church. According to this authority, at the end of the first year after the organization of the first class at Bridgewater village, the membership was ten; in 1810, 205; 1820,<sup>1</sup> 145; 1830, 275; 1840,<sup>2</sup> 313; 1850, 181; 1860, 222; 1870, 240; 1880, 305; 1890, 266; 1900, 223; 1902, 204.

#### ROLL OF PASTORS

##### New York Conference — New London District

1801 Asher Smith

##### Vershire District — Bridgewater Circuit

1802 Reuben Jones

##### Vermont District

1803 Elijah Hedding

<sup>1</sup>In 1819, the membership was reported as 261. The decrease is evidently accounted for by a transfer of membership to the Canaan circuit.

<sup>2</sup>In 1843, the membership of the Bristol church was reported as 490; the next year, as only 275. As there was a corresponding decrease throughout the conference, where the total loss reported was 3,451, the difference is only to be accounted for on the ground of a change in the method of enumeration.



## New England Conference — New Hampshire District

1804	Caleb Dustin	1817	Job Pratt
	Lewis Bates	1818	Orin Roberts
1805	Martin Ruter		Damon Young
	Benjamin Bishop	1819	Amasa Cowles
1806	Joel Winch	1820	Charles Baker
1807	Joseph Farrar	1821	Wallace Locke
1808	William Hunt		Bristol Circuit
1809	Leonard Frost		
1810	Warren Bannister	1822-23	Caleb Dustin
	Joseph Lull	1824	James Templeton
1811	Abner Clark	1825	Joseph Kellum
	Leonard Bennett		David Stickney
1812	John W. Hardy	1826	Amasa Buck
	Richard Emery		Moses Sanderson
1813	John Payne	1827	Matthew Newhall
	John Lewis		Richard Newhall
1814	John Wilkinson	1828	William Kimball
1815	Jonathan Worthen		Sereno Fisk
	Hezekiah Davis	1829	John Adams
1816	Leonard Frost		Caleb S. Beede

## New Hampshire and Vermont Conference — Plymouth District

1830	James B. H. Norris	1831	James B. H. Norris
	Sylvester P. Williams		Samuel Hackett

## New Hampshire Conference — Plymouth District

1832	Nathaniel Ladd	1836	Matthew Newhall
	S. P. Williams		E. Pettingill
1833	Warren Wilbur	1837	James Dow
	Salmon Gleason		A. H. Worthing
1834	Salmon Gleason	1838-39	Holman Drew
	Loren H. Gordon		Moody P. Marshall
1835	Matthew Newhall	1840	Reuben Dearborn
	Philo Bronson		John English

## Haverhill District

1841	Reuben Dearborn	1847-48	Converse L. McCurdy
	Henry H. Hartwell	1849-50	Albert C. Manson
	William Nelson	1851-52	Calvin Holman
1842	Joseph C. Cromack	1853	Samuel Kelley
	Jesse Boyden	1854	Silas S. Cummings
1843-44	Nath'l W. Aspenwall	1855	Lewis P. Cushman
1845-46	Lewis Howard		

## Concord District

1856	Lewis P. Cushman	1857-58	Josiah Hooper
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## Concord District

1859-60	Newell Culver	1865	William H. Jones
1861-62	John Currier	1866-68	James Thurston
1863	George N. Bryant	1869	Albert E. Drew
1864	J. W. Guernsey		

## Claremont District

1870	Albert E. Drew	1887-90	Otis Cole
1871-73	George W. Norris	1891-92	Robert T. Wolcott
1874-76	Jesse M. Durrell	1893-97	James D. LeGro
1877-78	Harvey Woodward	1898	Joseph L. Felt
1879-81	Henry S. Thompson	1899-00	Daniel Onstott
1882-83	James Pike, D.D.	1901-02	Lyman D. Bragg
1884-86	John A. Bowler		

## Presiding Elders

1801-02	John Brodhead	1852-55	William D. Cass
1803	Joseph Crawford	1856-59	Lewis Howard
1804-06	John Brodhead	1860-62	James Pike till Nov. '62, William D. Cass
1807-08	Elijah Hedding		balance of year
1809-10	Martin Ruter	1863-66	Elisha Adams
1811-14	Solomon Sias	1867-69	Lorenzo D. Barrows
1815-18	David Kilburn	1870	Silas G. Kellogg
1819-22	Jacob Sanborn	1871-72	James Pike
1823-26	Benjamin R. Hoyt	1873-76	Moses T. Cilley
1827-29	John F. Adams	1877-80	George J. Judkins
1830-31	J. W. Hardy	1881-84	Orlando H. Jasper
1832-35	Eleazer Wells	1885-89	Joseph E. Robins
1836-39	B. R. Hoyt	1890	George W. Norris
1840-43	C. D. Cahoon	1891-95	Samuel C. Keeler
1844	Justin Spalding	1896	George M. Curl
1845-46	Russell H. Spalding	1897-02	Oliver S. Baketel
1847-49	Justin Spalding		
1850-51	Reuben Dearborn		



REV. NEWELL CULVER  
REV. ALBERT E. DREW  
REV. JESSE M. DURRELL

REV. JAMES THURSTON  
REV. GEORGE W. NORRIS  
REV. OTIS COLE





## CHAPTER XXIV

### ECCLESIASTICAL—CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AND SOCIETY

Hear the tolling of the bells—  
Iron bells!

What a world of solemn thought their monody compels.

— *Poe.*

It has been shown in previous pages that ministers of the Congregational order held services in Bristol before the dawn of the nineteenth century, coming largely from adjoining towns with messages of love to the people. The attention of the New Hampshire Missionary society connected with the Congregational church was early called to the spiritual needs of this section of the state. In 1813, "Rev. Mr. Sawyer" was employed "to spend eight weeks on the highlands between Salisbury and Haverhill" from the middle of July till the middle of September. He visited New Chester, Alexandria, Danbury, Bridgewater, Dorchester, Wentworth, Warren, Piermont, Canaan, Orange, and Springfield; preached forty times; made one hundred and sixty calls; visited schools, and distributed religious literature. In 1815, a missionary of this society reported that Bridgewater village was "much improved"; that it had a "Reading society, a Catachetical society and a Praying society," "all of which met encouragement." Peter Hazelton, who kept tavern in what is now known as the Fisk block, was paid, in 1817, \$23 for boarding missionaries while laboring here. Rev. Thomas Holt labored ten weeks, in 1820, in Bristol, Alexandria, and Bridgewater. He reported that he was kindly received in Bristol village, and that a Congregational church might be formed here of ten or twelve members. The next year, he labored thirty-three weeks in this section, for the Missionary society, dividing his time among Bristol, Hebron, Alexandria, Salisbury, and Northfield. He was followed by Rev. Amos W. Burnham who labored eighteen weeks in Bristol village that year, and several months in 1822. In 1824, Rev. Jacob C. Goss labored here five weeks.

In 1821, Hon. Thomas W. Thompson, of Concord, died. Mr. Thompson was a large owner of real estate in Bristol, and one of the trustees of the New Hampshire Missionary society. He was much interested in missionary work in this section. In his will he made the following bequest to the town of Bristol:

I give and devise to the town of Bristol in the county of Grafton, the following tracts of land, to wit: lot No. 5 in the second division, as laid out by the proprietors of New Chester, but which now lies within the jurisdictional lines of the said town of Bristol; also the Point lot,<sup>1</sup> so called, in the said town of Bristol, as laid out by the proprietors of New Chester; also a lot of land, numbered 7 in the 1st division in Alexandria, in the county of Grafton, to hold to the said town of Bristol and their assigns in fee simple forever, under the following limitations and conditions, to wit: that those lands or the avails of them to be appropriated to the building and completing of a meeting house in said Bristol, about the size and value of the meeting house in Salisbury village; commonly called Eastman's village, and after the general model of said meeting house, the pews to be slips and the seats fastened down, so that there shall not be a seat in the meeting house lifted up or lowered down during public worship; the pulpit to be built after the model of the pulpit in the Presbyterian meeting house at Saratoga Springs in the state of New York. This devise is on the condition that the said meeting house be built and completed by said town of Bristol within six years from the time of my decease, and upon the further conditions that the taxes of every description upon said devised lands be in the meantime paid by said town of Bristol, and on the further condition that the pews in said meeting house be sold at auction in the customary manner, and that such a part of the avails of the sale of pews as the amount contributed by this devise bears to the whole expense of the building and completing said meeting house shall constitute a fund forever in the hands of the said town of Bristol, the interest of which shall be forever appropriated to the support of the gospel ministry in said meeting house after the Congregational order and shall be subject to the order or draft and expenditure of a majority of the Congregational part of the proprietors of said meeting house.

At its annual meeting in 1822, the town voted to accept the lands devised, but did nothing towards carrying out the provisions of the will. Thus matters drifted till the annual meeting in 1826, when the town voted "not to build a meeting house as a town" but to "relinquish its rights . . . to any society that would give a sufficient bond of indemnity" to the town. A bond signed by Richard H. Sawyer and others was presented and accepted. At that time, Rev. Samuel Arnold was laboring here under a commission from the Missionary society to devote a year to the work in Bristol, Alexandria, and Hebron. Under his influence and the stimulus of the above vote the same month, a paper was circulated in Bristol that read as follows:

The undersigned individuals propose to form themselves into a society for the purpose of preserving for the benefit of the town of Bristol and its vicinity the donations of the late Thomas W. Thompson in the manner prescribed by his will. The first meeting of said society to be holden at the hall of Capt. Ones, Page<sup>2</sup> in Bristol village, Saturday, the 25th of March, inst., at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of

<sup>1</sup> This was one of the original parsonage lots, described as "a point of land on westerly side of Newfound pond and a small island opposite."

<sup>2</sup> In the Fisk block.

organizing said society, assuming a suitable corporate name, and transacting such other business as may then be thought proper.

#### Names of Subscribers

Ichabod C. Bartlett	Fry Holt	Jacob Gurdy
N. G. Upham	Elijah Butrick	David Sleeper
A. L. Webster	Isaiah Emerson	Gilman Ingalls, Jr.
Solomon Cavis	Joshua T. Page	Joseph Moore
Philip Webster	Samuel C. Brown	Benjamin Kidder
R. H. Sawyer	Moses H. Bradley	Robert Smith
Jerahmeel Bowers	Joseph B. Eastman	Amos Brown
John McClary	Samuel Smith	David Cheney
Reuben Hosmer	Daniel Sanborn	George W. Truel
Ones. Page	Abbott Lovejoy	Aaron Sleeper
Jesse Sanborn	William L. Chase	John Little
J. T. Sanborn		

The first meeting of the subscribers was held at the hall designated, on Saturday, Mar. 25, 1826, and at that time a society was organized. Moses H. Bradley, Esq., was chosen chairman, and Dr. Samuel Smith, secretary. It was voted to assume the name and title of "The First Congregational Society of Bristol." At a meeting held Apr. 26, a committee, consisting of Hon. Moses H. Bradley, Philip Webster, and N. G. Upham, Esq., was elected to take necessary steps looking to the erection of a house of worship, and to procure plans of the Salisbury meeting-house. This meeting adjourned to May 13, and then from time to time till Dec. 2, 1826, when N. G. Upham, Philip Webster, John Little, Ebenezer Kendall, and R. H. Sawyer were elected a committee to draft plans, select a lot, and receive proposals for building. Dec. 11, this committee reported that John Mason and James Gordon, of New Hampton, had offered to build a house of one story after a model furnished, for the lands devised and \$600 in money; or one like the Salisbury meeting-house for the land and \$750. Both these offers were rejected. Finally Messrs. Mason and Gordon were offered the lands and \$595 in money for a church after the model of that at Salisbury; and this offer was accepted. The site selected for the church was "Fry Holt's garden," and here the church was erected. The committee on plans was made a building committee.

The Congregational church of Bristol was organized in the Methodist chapel, Nov. 15, 1826, under the name of the "First Congregational Church of Christ of Bristol." The following clergymen were present: Rev. Jonathan Ward, Rev. Andrew Rankin, and Rev. Samuel Arnold. Prayers were offered by Mr. Rankin and Mr. Ward; a sermon was preached by Mr. Rankin, and an address given to the church by Mr. Ward. The following persons united with the church at this time, a meeting for their examination having been previously held at the house of Richard H. Sawyer:

John Gutterson, from the church in Alexandria.  
 Mary Bradley, from the church in Concord.  
 Sally Lewis, from the church in New Hampton.  
 Mary Sawyer, from the church in Boscawen.  
 Mary Bartlett, by profession.  
 Relief Sawyer, by profession.  
 Miriam L. Little, by profession.  
 Samuel Smith, from church in New Hampton.  
 Susanna Sawyer, from church in Boscawen.  
 Dorothy Bowers, from church in Hill.

At this meeting all the above named subscribed the following

#### ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe that there is but one God, the Creator, Preserver, and Moral Governor of the universe ; a being of infinite power, knowledge, wisdom, justice, goodness, and truth ; the self-existent, independent and immutable Fountain of good.

2. We believe that the scriptures of the Old and New Testament were given by inspiration of God ; that they are profitable for doctrine, for reproof, and for instruction in righteousness ; and that they are our only rule of doctrinal belief and religious practice.

3. We believe that the mode of divine existence is such as lays a foundation for a distinction into three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost ; and that these three are one in essence, and equal in power and glory.

4. We believe that God has made all things for himself ; that known unto him are all his works from the beginning ; and that he governs all things according to the counsel of his own will.

5. We believe that the Divine law and the principles and administration of the divine government are perfectly holy, just and good ; and that all rational beings are bound to approve them as such.

6. We believe that God at first created man in his own image, in a state of rectitude and holiness, and that he fell from that state by transgressing the divine command in the article of the forbidden fruit.

7. We believe that in consequence of the first apostacy, the heart of man in his natural state is destitute of all holiness, and in a state of positive disaffection with the law, character and government of God ; and that all men, previous to regeneration, are dead in trespasses and sins.

8. We believe, that although the invitation of the gospel is such, that whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely ; yet the depravity of the human heart is such that no man will come to Christ, except the Father, by the special and efficacious influences of his spirit, draw him.

9. We believe that Christ, the Son of God, has, by his obedience, sufferings and death, made atonement for sin ; that he is the only Redeemer of sinners ; and that all, who are saved, will be altogether indebted to the grace and mercy of God for their salvation.

10. We believe that those who embrace the gospel were chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world, that they should be holy and without blame before him in love ; and that they are saved, not by works of righteousness which they have done, but according to the distinguishing mercy of God through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth.

11. We believe that those who cordially embrace Christ, although they may be left to fall into sin, will never be left finally to fall away and



perish; but will be kept by the mighty power of God through faith unto salvation.

12. We believe that there will be a general resurrection of the bodies both of the just and the unjust.

13. We believe that all men must one day stand before the judgment seat of Christ to receive a just and final sentence of retribution according to the deeds done in the body; and that, at the day of judgment, the state of all will be unalterably fixed; and that the punishment of the wicked and the happiness of the righteous will be endless.

14. We believe that Christ has a visible church in the world, into which none, in the sight of God, but real believers, and none, in the sight of men, but visible believers, have right of admission.

15. We believe that the sacraments of the New Testament are Baptism and the Lord's Supper; that believers in regular church standing only can consistently partake of the Lord's Supper, that visible believers and their households can only consistently be admitted to the ordinance of Baptism.

Dec. 7, 1826, Sarah Hall was admitted to this church by letter from the church at Hopkinton. The next sabbath, Rev. Andrew Rankin, pastor of the church at Thornton, preached, administered the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, baptized a daughter of Dr. Samuel Smith, and received Sally Minot into the church on profession of faith. No further meetings of the church appear to have been held till June 21, 1827, when the members assembled at the house of R. H. Sawyer. At this time, Judith Ayer, Priscilla Smith, and Alsas G. Bowers presented themselves as candidates for membership, and were examined. It was voted to receive them "at the first convenient opportunity." This opportunity was Sunday, July 22, when Rev. Jonathan Ward, of Plymouth, preached, administered the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and baptized a son of John Little. He also received into the church the three candidates named above, Dr. Moody C. Sawyer, and Sarah Lewis, all on profession of faith. At the end of the first year, the number of members was, therefore, seventeen.

On the eighteenth day of February, 1827, there was organized in connection with the society "The Bristol Ladies' Bible Association," auxiliary to the New Hampshire Bible society. Its object was to aid in the circulation of the Bible, especially among the destitute. The officers were: President, Mrs. Susan Sawyer; secretary, Mary G. Bradley; treasurer, Mrs. Lucy Jane D. Webster; collector, Miss Mary Bartlett. The other members were Anne Bartlett, Pamela P. Smith, Eliza W. Lewis, Priscilla Smith, Polly H. Kimball, Relief Sawyer, Nancy Page, Martha Brown, Lavinia Sleeper, Sally Lewis, and Olivia Tolford.

The meeting-house was built in the summer of 1827. The raising of the frame occupied two days, and was attended by a large number of people. A barrel of rum, provided for the occasion, stood at the northwest corner of the grounds. This sup-

ply did not prove sufficient, and a half barrel was added the second day. Notwithstanding this generous supply, only one man showed the effects of his libations. This man, after the ridgepole was in place, climbed to the top, and from that position sang a song.<sup>1</sup>

The church edifice, as originally completed, was a two-story structure, nearly square — 44 x 50 feet. There was a gallery on the north and south sides and west end. The "singing seats" were in the gallery, on the west end, opposite the pulpit. The gallery was reached by stairs on both sides of the pulpit. The pulpit was nearly on a level with the floor of the gallery, and was reached by a flight of stairs; but there was no sounding-board over it. The church was lighted by two rows of windows, one for the first and the other for the second story. The pews were of the box variety, but, as provided in the will of Mr. Thompson, all parts of the pews were stationary, so there was no lifting up or slamming down of seats during divine worship, so common in those days. The dedication took place Sept. 26, 1827, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon. The dedicatory sermon was delivered by Rev. Francis Norwood, of Laconia. Among the incidents of the day were the presentation of a Bible for the desk from Dea. William Arnold, of Charlestown, Mass.; a hymn-book from Rev. Samuel Arnold, and a communion and baptismal service from Rev. Warren Fay, pastor of the Congregational church at Charlestown, Mass.

The sale of the pews commenced Saturday, Oct. 13, at 10 o'clock, a. m., and continued for a part of six days, till all the pews were disposed of. In payment for each, two notes were taken, one running to the society for one-third the purchase money; the other, for two-thirds the purchase money, running to the town, to constitute the fund provided for in the will of Mr. Thompson. In 1839, the town turned these notes over to the society. In 1855, this fund amounted to \$800. The following is a list of the sales, in the order made, and the price of each:

No.	Name of purchaser	Price	No.	Name of purchaser	Price
44	Ebenezer Kendall	\$28.00	16	John Page	\$12.00
43	Philip Webster	34.00	30	Joseph Sanborn	12.00
42	Abbott Lovejoy	66.00	37	Fry Holt	17.00
41	Richard H. Sawyer	60.00	25	Samuel Smith	30.00
40	William L. Chase	26.00	19	Robert Smith	30.00
22	Jonathan Merrill	10.00	29	George L. Crocker	13.00
24	Samuel Sleeper	16.50	23	Samuel Bryant	11.00
20	Peter C. Carleton	27.00	3	Arthur L. Webster	30.00
26	Moses H. Bradley	35.00	2	Jacob Gurdy	15.00
18	Nathaniel B. Frost	30.00	38	Levi Bartlett	19.00
28	John Little	22.00	21	M. H. Bradley	10.00

<sup>1</sup>Statement of G. W. Mason, son of one of the builders, who was present.

No.	Name of purchaser	Price	No.	Name of purchaser	Price
31	Gilman Ingalls, Jr.	\$8.00		In the gallery	
32	Jacob Gurdy	9.00	23	David Sanborn	\$7.00
27	John Little	22.00	22	N. F. Plummer	9.50
6	John Merrill	10.00	20	Ebenezer Kendall	8.00
4	Nathan Moore	31.00	21	Josiah Fellows	10.00
5	Josiah Fellows, Jr.	11.50	19	Ebenezer Kendall	6.00
7	Solomon Cavis	16.00	18	Ebenezer Kendall	6.00
12	Joseph Brown	8.00	17	Benjamin Hall	5.00
17	Moses Johnson	12.00	15	Richard H. Sawyer	4.00
39	Peter Sanborn	16.00	14	Joseph Fuller	4.50
36	Jerahmeel Bowers	11.00	16	Ebenezer Kendall	4.00
34	Benjamin Kelly	12.50	13	Ebenezer Kendall	6.00
33	Joseph Moore	10.50	12	Philip Webster	4.00
35	Caleb Whittemore	9.00	11	George W. Truell	4.00
8	Rufus G. Lewis	15.00	10	Ebenezer Kendall	6.00
9	Daniel Sanborn	10.00	9	Weare Sleeper	6.00
15	Moses Sleeper	10.00	8	Samuel Smith	6.00
1	Ebenezer Kendall	11.50	7	N. G. Upham	6.00
10	John Ayer	7.50	6	Philip Webster	6.00
11	William Pattee	10.00	5	Moses Burns	6.00
14	Cyrus Ferrin	8.50	4	John Allen	6.00
13	Hezekiah Peck	6.00	3	Nathaniel G. Upham	6.00
			2	David Cheney	4.50
			1	George W. Truell	4.00

The cost of the church was \$1,867.56. To meet this, the land was taken at \$1,200; \$15 was received from the sale of timber from the lot before the transfer, and there was pledged on subscription, \$595. The pews were sold for \$935, from which was paid \$9.62 for the services of the auctioneer, and \$3, each, to the five men who supervised the construction of the church, leaving \$910.38 as the net proceeds of the sale. Of this amount, \$592.46, mostly in notes, was paid over to the town to provide the fund required by the will, leaving \$317.92 available for the use of the society. If the entire amount subscribed was paid, the society had a surplus of \$260 after paying all bills, besides the amount paid over to the town.

During 1827, occasional services were held, the rite of baptism was performed, and the sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered by Rev. Jonathan Ward, of Plymouth, Rev. Mr. Bodwell, of Sanbornton, and Rev. Andrew Rankin. The latter part of the year, Rev. Samuel Arnold labored a portion of the time, in connection with the church at Alexandria and Hebron, and so continued till May, 1828. June 1, 1828, Rev. Mr. Corse, of Loudon, officiated. The same month, the Missionary society voted an appropriation for the work in Bristol, evidently with the expectation of naming the man to labor here. The church at the same time engaged Rev. Job Cushman, without consulting the society, and the appropriation was withheld. July 20, 1829, application was made to the "Massachusetts Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge" for \$100 each year for

five years. This appears to have been unsuccessful, and William L. Chase was made a committee to apply to the New Hampshire Missionary society for aid. His letter contains so much information that it is here inserted in full.

Bristol, N. H., Aug., 1829.

To. Rev. Abraham Burnham, Sect'y of the N. H. Miss. Society.

Rev. & Dear Sir:—I have been appointed by the Cong. Church in this town their agent to present to the board of trustees of your society their request that a sum of money voted at the semi-annual meeting of said board in June, 1828, to be appropriated to the supplying of missionary labors in this place, be paid over to the Rev. Job Cushman, as a compensation in part for preaching in this place during the year past.

In presenting this request the attention of the board is solicited to the following statement of facts, viz. That soon after it was known here that the above mentioned appropriation had been voted & that the Rev. Jona. Ward was appointed to procure & employ a missionary for the purpose & he enquired whether there was any one whom the people could select as their minister, Mr. Cushman was introduced to individuals here by Rev. Mr. Sargent, as being a clergyman worthy of confidence, & as being then unengaged. The result was a contract between Mr. C. & the church & society that he should preach to them one year with the exception of 6 or 8 Sabbaths reserved to himself. This contract was entered into with the expectation that Mr. Cushman would receive the sum voted by your board to this place in addition to the avails of a subscription list then circulated here, & also the interest for one year of the fund arising out of the donation of the Hon. Mr. Thompson. This contract Mr. Cushman has fulfilled on his part, & from the two last mentioned sources may receive \$150 or \$160. His labors have been highly acceptable to the church and people. Sectarian prejudices have been much softened, & some instances of hopeful conversions have been amongst the fruits of his ministry here. In view of these facts it is confidently hoped that the board will deem it proper to grant our request.

All which is respectfully submitted in behalf of said church.

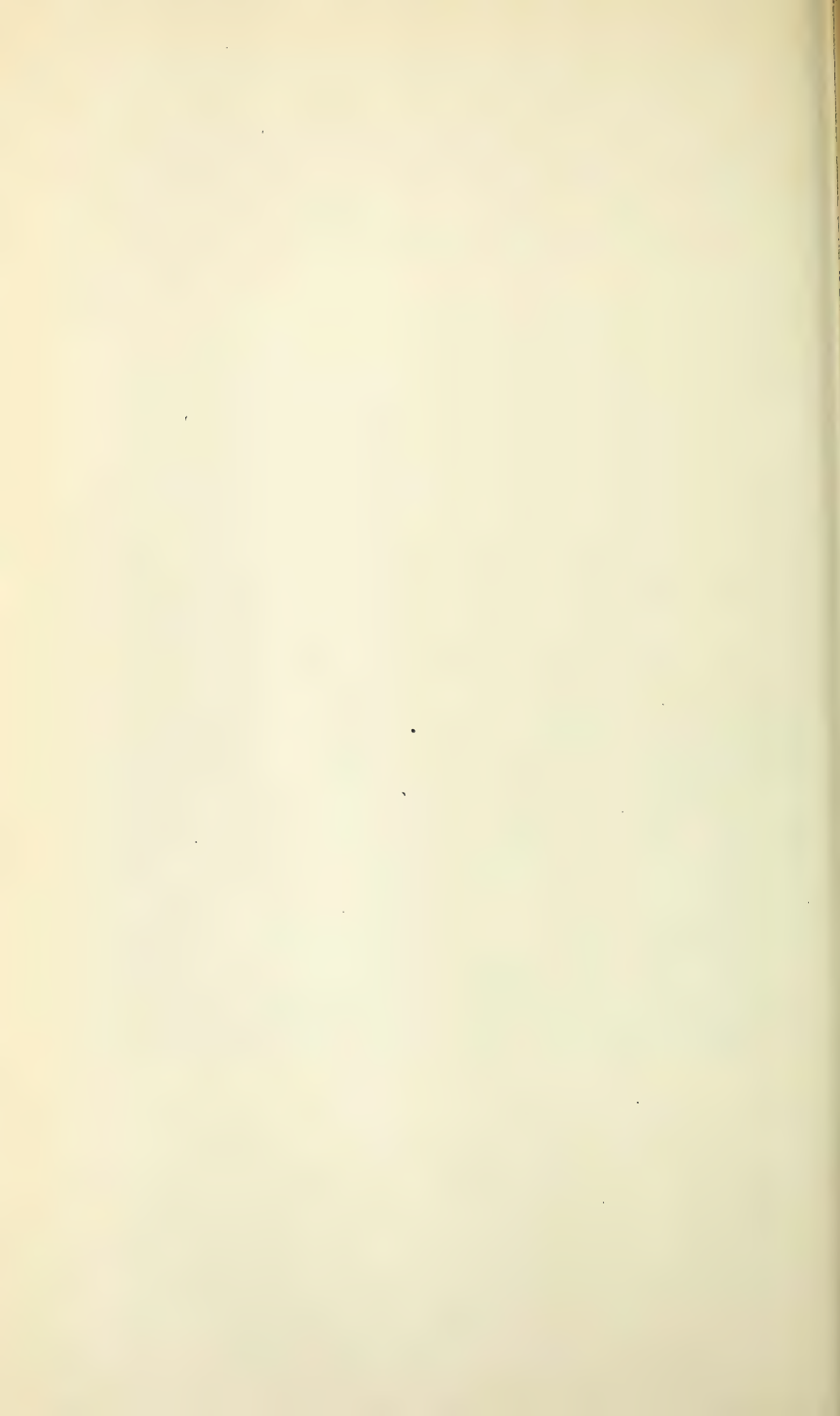
William L. Chase.

To this request a negative reply was returned. Mr. Cushman continued to supply this church till May, 1829. In 1830, the Missionary society again showed its interest by suggesting that the church at Bristol and that at Hill unite in the support of one man, and Rev. Isaac Knight was sent here as a candidate. This union did not remain long, if at all, though Mr. Knight served the church at Hill for some years. In 1831, Rev. John Winter, who had been laboring at Danbury, assumed charge of the church at Bristol in connection with that in Danbury, spending half his time at each place. The Missionary society contributed \$100 towards his support. Mr. Winter took up his residence in Bristol and, in the early part of 1832, Danbury was dropped from his field. Mr. Winter remained here till March, 1837, and was succeeded in May, following, by John Wellman, who served till 1841. Rev. Joel Wright served from June, 1841, till the early part of 1842.





CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, BRISTOL, ERECTED 1827



Rev. Daniel O. Morton<sup>1</sup> accepted a call to this church Mar. 1, 1842. Thus far the church had had no settled pastor and Mr. Morton was to be installed. The church at New Hampton accepted an invitation to cooperate with this church on this occasion; and the committees of these churches met at the residence of Richard H. Sawyer to make arrangements for the event. The council was composed of the pastors and delegates from the churches at Concord, West Concord, Plymouth, Boscawen, Franklin, Sanbornton Bridge, Meredith Village, and Danbury. Dr. Jacob S. Eaton, who was a prominent member of the church at that time, in a communication to the *Bristol Enterprise*, Nov. 27, 1880, had this to say of the occasion and the man installed over this church:

The installation of Rev. Daniel O. Morton occurred Wednesday, June 8, 1842. It was an important event for the place. The council was large and talented. Dr. Bouton of Concord preached and Dr. Smith of New Hampton gave the charge. The singing was equal to the other parts—the orchestra consisting of violin and seraphine (Dr. Dana and lady), bass viol (Maj. Wells), and the minor instruments, with the conjoined choirs of Bristol and New Hampton, made a powerful chorus. Among the select music rendered was "Before Jehovah's awful throne, ye nations bow with sacred joy," containing the finest symphonies and choruses of ancient time. The occasion was a source of great joy to all present, and still lingers as a blessed *souvenir* in many a heart. The redolent June day, the throngs going up to the house of God, the greetings of old friends, and the praise that filled the temple below and ascended to that above, still linger on our memory like the consecrations and songs of Bethlehem's plains.

Mr. Morton's ten years' ministry was a memorable decade in the Bristol church. His unflagging labors, genial intercourse with all classes, and purity of life won all hearts. A ripe scholar, eloquent preacher, a pillar of truth, his death, which occurred Mar. 25, 1852, ended his labors and caused unfeigned sorrow in the community. Nearly all the council of the installation were present at his funeral, Dr. Bouton again preaching the sermon, and Dr. Parker addressing at the grave. Although the deceased was religiously observant of the laws of health, and talked of a green old age, yet he fell at the moderate period of sixty-three years. A mysterious fatality seemed to quench out his valuable life, and was referred to disease of the heart, that beat with a violence almost to break its bony walls. Dilatation of that organ was the settled judgment of the medical faculty, but an examination after death nullified the *diagnosis*, revealing a perfect heart of moderate size, and all the visceral organs intact, but hardly blood enough to stain the linen drapery, confirming the often repeated fallacies of heart symptoms, the want of blood, and not defect in the vital organ, causing death.

Mr. Morton was a man of heavenly spirit, and but few men attain that position of dignity, reverence, and love that was accorded him by all classes of the community. In the summer of 1884, a memorial tablet was placed in this church to his memory. It occupies the niche at the right of the desk, and is

<sup>1</sup> See Genealogies.

three feet, four inches in width, by about six feet in height. It is wrought from Italian marble, highly polished, and is supported in position by marble brackets, and finished at the top with moulded scroll cornices, surmounted by a gothic cross. The inscription, engraved in plain gothic letters, reads as follows :

IN MEMORY OF  
REV. DANIEL OLIVER MORTON,  
PASTOR OF THE  
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES  
IN SHOREHAM AND SPRINGFIELD, VT.,  
AND WINCHENDON, MASS.,  
FROM 1812 TO 1841,  
AND OF THIS CHURCH FROM  
JUNE 8, 1842,  
TO THE DAY OF HIS DEATH  
MARCH 25, 1852.  
"THEY THAT TURN MANY TO RIGHT-  
EOUSNESS SHALL SHINE AS THE STARS  
FOR EVER AND EVER."  
ERECTED BY HIS SON,  
LEVI PARSONS MORTON.

In 1843, the Congregational church at New Hampton disbanded, and thirty-four of its members took letters to the church at Bristol. These, with an addition of thirteen by profession that year, increased the membership to eighty, and the Bristol church became self-supporting.

In 1844, the meeting-house was remodeled. The gallery was taken out, and the windows of the two stories united. The box pews were removed, except a few in the west end, and more modern slips took their places, but pew doors were retained. At this time, the pulpit was changed from the east to the west end of the church.

In June, 1852, Rev. Joseph Garland commenced his labors here as a stated supply, and continued till January, 1857. Mr. Garland was a man of average ability, and his labor was marked by his constant attacks on the institution of slavery. He had some unhappy traits of character and "his life was a stormy one." His family left him and in later life he became a subject of charity. The next Sunday after Mr. Garland closed his work with this church, Rev. John Clark, of Plymouth, succeeded him, and continued till June 1, 1858, at a salary of \$400 and parsonage.

In August, 1858, Rev. John Wood was called; but he declined on the ground that the salary was insufficient. The pulpit was supplied by professors of the New Hampton Biblical Institute and others till February, 1859, when Rev. William Spaulding began his labors here. The next month he was engaged for two years as a stated supply.

Apr. 14, 1861, Rev. Charles F. Abbott was engaged for one



year, and \$467 was raised by subscription for his support. Mr. Abbott was born in Lemington, Vt., Nov. 27, 1831. He was graduated from Middlebury college in 1858, and from Andover Theological seminary in 1861. He was ordained in Bristol as an evangelist, Jan. 2, 1862, together with Rev. J. W. Picket, of Wentworth. The invocation was offered and the Scriptures were read by Rev. H. S. Sleeper, pastor of the Free Baptist church in Bristol; prayer was offered by Rev. John Currier, pastor of the Methodist church in Bristol; the sermon was by Rev. C. W. Wallace, of Manchester; ordaining prayer and charge, Rev. A. P. Tenney, West Concord; right hand of fellowship, Rev. J. Boutwell, Sanbornton Square; concluding prayer, Rev. S. H. Amsden, Hill. Mr. Abbott continued his labors with this church till July 1, 1866, when failing health compelled him to resign. At this time, he was under an engagement of five years at \$500 per year. He died at his home in Bristol, Sept. 20, following. Mr. Abbott was a man of ability, a devoted Christian, and was greatly loved by the people whom he served.

The dwelling, now the Congregational parsonage, on School street, once stood just north of the residence of Levi Bartlett, on the east side of Central square. This house Mr. Bartlett purchased, moved it to its present site, and refitted it for a parsonage. Nov. 14, 1868, Mr. Bartlett died, and in January, following, in accordance with his will, this property was deeded to the Congregational society for \$500, its value over and above this amount being a gift. The \$500 paid for the parsonage was placed in the hands of Hon. Josiah Minot, there to remain for three or four years. If, during that time, the church should be rebuilt, this money was to be paid as Mr. Bartlett's part towards this object. If the church should be repaired, \$300 of this sum was to be paid as his subscription to this object.

In November, 1866, Rev. Silas Ketchum was engaged as stated supply at a salary of \$600. He was ordained Sept. 17, 1867. The opening prayer was offered by Rev. David Calley; the sermon was by Rev. W. R. Jewett, of Penacook; the ordaining prayer, by Rev. Corban Curtice, of Northfield; the charge, by Rev. Liba Conant, of Hebron; the right hand of fellowship, by Rev. John LeBosquet, of Danbury; closing prayer, by Rev. Milton L. Severance, of Boscawen. Mr. Ketchum's pastorate was highly successful. He was a ripe scholar, a close student, and a fine preacher. The first of December, 1869, the pastor commenced a series of revival meetings, continuing them for nine weeks, five or six evenings each week. As the result, thirty were added to the church. In April, 1869, Mr. Ketchum received a call to Fremont, Neb.; but his salary was raised to \$1,000 and he was induced to engage himself for two years longer.

In the summer of 1870, the church edifice was enlarged and repaired. The present modern pews were put in and twenty feet added to the west end of the edifice, making the seating capacity four hundred and fifty. The total cost was near \$7,000, of which sum the Ladies' society paid \$1,600 for carpets, chandelier, furnace, and upholstery. There was assessed on the pews \$1,000, and the rest was paid by subscription. While this work was under way, the people worshipped in the town hall. The church was rededicated Nov. 10, the sermon being preached by Rev. William T. Savage, of Franklin.

In the early part of 1871, it was decided to erect a vestry. For twenty-three years, the society had used the "academy" for all social meetings. This building was erected about 1848 by Levi Bartlett, for private schools and social meetings, and was the same as now stands just north of Hotel Bristol, used by Fred S. Fall as a marble shop. It had fixed benches and had a steeple in which was a bell. It was proposed to remove this building, purchase additional land, and erect the vestry on its site. Union Lodge, A. F. & A. M., was to unite with the society in the erection of the building and own the second story; the vestry was to be in the first story. A part of the necessary funds were raised, the lumber purchased, and every thing was in readiness to go on with the work when the deed to the additional land was withheld. The vestry was not built, and the academy continued to be used for vestry purposes till Dec. 8, 1872, when it was used by the Congregationalists for the last time. It was then opened for a memorial service. The society then moved into modern rooms in Charles Boardman's new block which was hired at an annual rental of \$150. These rooms were used for the social gatherings of the church as well as for religious meetings.

Jan. 1, 1871, this church united with the other two churches of the village in holding revival services conducted by Henry F. Durant. Mr. Durant continued these services seventeen days, preaching to the church-members in the afternoon and to the unconverted in the evening. Four hundred made a profession of religion. Union meetings were continued by the pastors after Mr. Durant left, and extended into the out-districts, where meetings were held in the schoolhouses. The revival spread into neighboring towns, and the pastors of this village held meetings, by invitation, in nearly every meeting-house within a radius of ten miles. In Hebron, twenty-six were baptized; in Hill, fifteen; a large number in New Hampton, and some in Alexandria, Danbury, and Bridgewater. Mr. Ketchum preached eighty-three times between Jan. 1 and May 28.

Aug. 27-29, the General Association of New Hampshire met with this church, and two hundred and fifty ministers and delegates were entertained by the people.



REV. SILAS KETCHUM





To meet an indebtedness of the society which had accumulated from various causes, a mortgage of \$1,000 had been placed on the parsonage. In March, 1870, Solomon Cavis contributed \$800 towards liquidating this claim, which was then paid.

Rev. Mr. Ketchum tendered his resignation Feb. 5, 1875. His last sermon was preached May 2, when the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered. During his pastorate, one hundred and one were added to the church, and for the last few years he was paid a salary of \$1,000 and parsonage.

Mr. Ketchum's retirement was a great loss to the church and the community. He was emphatically a self-made man. While struggling with ill health and poverty, he pursued a three years' course at the Bangor Theological seminary, from which institution he was graduated in 1863. In December, following, he accepted a call to the church at Wardsboro, Vt., and during a pastorate of less than two years his congregation was twice doubled. He then engaged in editorial work at Brattleboro, Vt., in connection with the *Vermont Record* and the *Vermont School Journal*, where he remained till he came to Bristol. His zeal in his work, his indefatigable labors for the good of others, and his noble heart that always beat in sympathy with the afflicted, embalmed his memory in the hearts of the people. In all matters of public interest he was outspoken and positive. He was a diligent student, and his stock of information was extensive and varied. He took special interest in historical and antiquarian matters, and was the founder of the New Hampshire Antiquarian society and its chief moving spirit. He was corresponding member of the New Hampshire Historical society. To the last named society he presented over five hundred volumes; to the Antiquarian society, 1,200 volumes and over 3,000 pamphlets, and to the Congregational association, Boston, over three hundred and fifty volumes. His own library numbered 2,500 volumes. He was a voluminous writer. (See Bristol in Literature.)

Mr. Ketchum took an active interest in the cause of education and was for several years identified with the schools of Bristol as superintending school committee. He was especially happy in inspiring the young with an ambition to make the most of their opportunities. He was a charming conversationalist, and his presence was welcomed to the most cultured circles. A few months after leaving Bristol, Mr. Ketchum was installed as pastor of the Congregational church at Maplewood, Mass. He resigned his pastorate there, and, in July, 1877, assumed the pastoral charge of the Second Congregational church at Windsor, Conn., in that part of the town known as Poquonock, and was installed Aug. 1, 1879. In the spring of 1880, while on a visit in Boston, he was stricken with the illness that terminated in his death, April 24, in the prime of life.

Rev. A. W. Moore succeeded Mr. Ketchum as stated supply at the same salary. He labored here two years. Rev. J. M. Hart was engaged as Mr. Moore's successor for one year ending the first Sunday in May, 1878, at a salary of \$750 and parsonage. A council met at the church Nov. 3, 1877, called for the purpose of ordaining Mr. Hart as an evangelist. This council consisted of Rev. Samuel F. Lougee, and Rev. Robert Ford, Danbury; Rev. Austin H. Burr, Franklin; Rev. Moses T. Runnels, J. Brackett Calif, Sanbornton; Rev. Geo. H. Scott, Plymouth; Rev. Quincy Blakely, Campton; Rev. J. B. Cook, Hebron. Mr. Hart's certificate of approbation to preach the gospel from the association of Congregational ministers of New Haven, Conn., was read. The candidate stated his religious experience and motives for entering the ministry, and gave his doctrinal belief. The custom of the church in assisting to ordain ministers without installation was stated by Dea. Nathan B. Buttrick. At this point the proceedings were arrested and the council voted to be by itself. It was then voted, three to two, not to proceed with the ordination. At two o'clock, the congregation again gathered, when a statement of facts was presented. The reasons for their action were, that since 1852 this church had had no settled pastor; that some of its members were not in favor of settling a minister; that Mr. Hart had been laboring for four months with entire satisfaction to this people, and that no reasons appeared why he should not labor as pastor rather than as acting pastor. In view of these facts they did not feel justified in proceeding, believing it would be contrary to Congregational usage, and derogatory to the best interests of the churches. Mr. Hart continued his labors here till the first of May, following.

Rev. E. L. Jaggar was stated supply for two years ending May 10, 1881. During this time, he spent a vacation of three months in Europe. During his absence, union services were held by the Congregationalists and Free Baptists, Rev. Nathan C. Lothrop, pastor of the last named church, officiating. A thanksgiving service was held at the Congregational church Aug. 5, 1879, for the safe return of the pastor, all the churches in town uniting.

Jan. 31, 1879, Frederick H. Bartlett, a member of this church, while laboring at Fabyan's, received from the American Home Missionary society an appointment to the Black Hills, South Dakota, and requested ordination. This was assented to by the church, a council was called, and he was ordained at Bristol Feb. 20, 1879. The ordination sermon was preached by Rev. C. E. Harrington, and the right hand of fellowship was extended by Rev. Quincy Blakely.

Rev. Hervey G. Pillsbury commenced his services as stated supply in May, 1882. He was ordained and installed Sept. 28,

following, by a council of which Rev. F. T. Perkins was moderator, and Rev. Quincy Blakely scribe. The opening prayer was made by Rev. James Pike, D.D., pastor of the Methodist church, and the Scriptures were read by Rev. Geo. O. Wiggin, pastor of the Free Baptist church. The sermon was by Rev. S. F. French; the ordaining and installing prayer, by Rev. M. T. Runnels. The charge to the pastor was by Rev. Frederic T. Perkins, the right hand of fellowship by Rev. Henry P. Peck, and the charge to the people by Rev. Quincy Blakely.

In 1884, a revised "Statement of Doctrine" was adopted by this church as follows:

1. We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who is of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; and in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who is sent from the Father and Son, and who, together with the Father and Son, is worshipped and glorified.

2. We believe that the Providence of God, by which he executes his eternal purposes in the government of the world, is in and over all events; yet so that the freedom and responsibility of man are not impaired, and sin is the act of the creature alone.

3. We believe that man was made in the image of God, that he might know, love, and obey God, and enjoy him forever; that our first parents, by disobedience, fell under the righteous condemnation of God; and that all men are so alienated from God that there is no salvation from the guilt and power of sin except through God's redeeming grace.

4. We believe that God would have all men return to him; that to this end he has made himself known, not only through the works of nature, the course of His providence, and the consciences of men, but also through supernatural revelations made especially to a chosen people, and above all, when the fullness of time was come, through Jesus Christ His Son.

5. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the record of God's revelation of himself in the work of redemption; that they were written by men under the special guidance of the Holy Spirit; that they are able to make wise unto salvation; and that they constitute the authoritative standard, by which religious teaching and human conduct are to be regulated and judged.

6. We believe that the love of God to sinful men has found its highest expression in the redemptive work of his Son; who became man, uniting his divine nature with our human nature in one person; who was tempted like other men, yet without sin; who, by his humiliation, his holy obedience, his sufferings, his death on the cross, and his resurrection, became a perfect Redeemer; whose sacrifice of himself for the sin of the world declares the righteousness of God, and is the sole and sufficient ground of forgiveness and reconciliation with him.

7. We believe that Jesus Christ, after he had risen from the dead, ascended into heaven, where, as the one mediator between God and man, he carries forward his work of saving men; that he sends the Holy Spirit to convict them of sin, and to lead them to repentance and faith; and that those who through renewing grace turn to righteousness, and trust in Jesus Christ as their Redeemer, receive for his sake the forgiveness of their sins, and are made the children of God.

8. We believe that those who are thus regenerated and justified grow in sanctified character through fellowship with Christ, the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, and obedience to the truth; that a holy life is the



fruit and evidence of saving faith; and that the believer's hope of continuance in such a life is in the preserving grace of God.

9. We believe that Jesus Christ came to establish among men the kingdom of God, the reign of truth and love, righteousness and peace; that to Jesus Christ, the Head of this kingdom, Christians are directly responsible in faith and conduct; and that to him all have immediate access without mediatorial or priestly intervention.

10. We believe that the Church of Christ, invisible and spiritual, comprises all true believers, whose duty it is to associate themselves in churches, for the maintenance of worship, for the promotion of spiritual growth and fellowship, and for the conversion of men; that these churches, under the guidance of the Holy Scriptures and in fellowship with one another, may determine—each for itself—their organization, statements of belief, and forms of worship, may appoint and set apart their own ministers, and should co-operate in the work which Christ has committed to them for the furtherance of the gospel throughout the world.

11. We believe in the observance of the Lord's Day, as a day of holy rest and worship; in the ministry of the word; and in the two sacraments, which Christ has appointed for His church; baptism, to be administered to believers and their children, as the sign of cleansing from sin, of union to Christ, and the impartation of the Holy Spirit; and the Lord's Supper, as a symbol of his atoning death, a seal of its efficacy, and a means whereby he confirms and strengthens the spiritual union and communion of believers with himself.

12. We believe in the ultimate prevalence of the kingdom of Christ over all the earth; in the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; in the resurrection of the dead; and in a final judgment, the issues of which are everlasting punishment and everlasting life.

Mr. Pillsbury had a successful pastorate of over six years. He tendered his resignation Nov. 13, 1888, and was dismissed by council Nov. 22. The ecclesiastical council which dismissed him was composed of Rev. Quincy Blakely, Campton; Rev. W. W. Dow, and Dea. Geo. B. Pulsifer, Danbury; Rev. J. H. Bliss, and John D. Kirk, Franklin; Dea. Samuel Wells, Hebron; Rev. H. P. Peck, Plymouth, and Rev. E. H. Greeley, D.D., Concord.

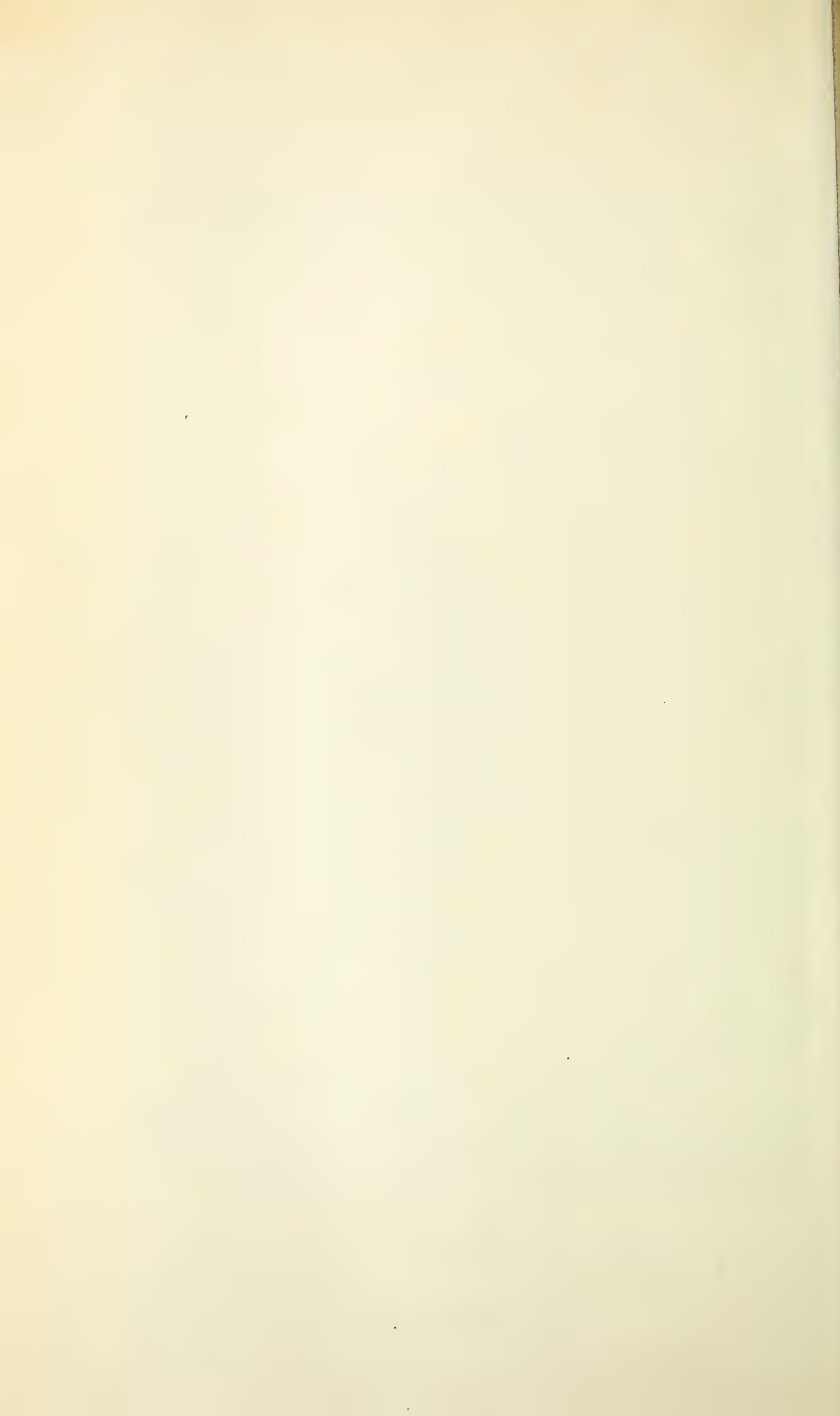
In the summer of 1886, further improvements were made in the church edifice. An addition was made to the west end to accommodate the organ and choir behind the pulpit.

Rev. Geo. W. Patterson succeeded Mr. Pillsbury, and he was ordained Dec. 11, 1888, at 7 o'clock p. m., by an ecclesiastical council. The invocation was by Rev. W. A. Nealy, pastor of the Free Baptist church, Bristol, and the Scriptures were read by Rev. J. H. Bliss, Franklin. The sermon was by Rev. W. J. Tucker, D.D., of Andover, Mass., now president of Dartmouth college. The ordination prayer was offered by Rev. F. D. Ayer, D.D.; the charge was by Rev. E. H. Greeley, D.D.; the right hand of fellowship by Rev. C. C. Sampson, Tilton, and prayer by Rev. Otis Cole, pastor of the Methodist church, Bristol. The other members of the council were C. S. Parker, Concord; David E.





CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, REMODELED 1870



Willard, Concord ; J. D. Kirk, Franklin ; Hon. James W. Patterson, Hanover ; George E. Colburn, Groton, and George A. Sumner, Hill. Mr. Patterson labored here till April 13, 1890.

Rev. John W. Savage accepted a call as acting pastor of this church Nov. 27, 1890, and continued to fill this position till August, 1902. Mr. Savage was born in Somers, New York, Feb. 3, 1833. His preparation for the ministry included three years at Howard college ; one year at Harvard ; two years at the Newton Theological institute, and one year at the Bangor Theological seminary. He was ordained in 1863. Before coming to Bristol he filled pastorates at Bluehill, Me. ; Kennebunkport, Me. ; Dover, N. H. ; Canton, Mass. ; North Stonington, Conn., and Cohasset, Mass. He is now serving the Congregational church at Greenfield. Mr. Savage is a ripe scholar and an accomplished gentleman, a Mason and an Odd Fellow, and his presence is always a welcome addition to any gathering. In Bristol he served five years on the board of education, two years as superintendent.

Rev. H. F. Graham succeeded Mr. Savage as a supply.

For vestry purposes the society continued to use the hall in the second story of Boardman's block till the block was destroyed by fire in April, 1889. From this time, it occupied the second story of the postoffice block till 1896, when it moved into rooms in Taylor & Merrill's new block on Spring street, which are still used as vestries.

The first bell was placed in the belfry of the Congregational church in 1832, and the first clock about 1836. The clock had but one face—on the north. This bell was replaced about 1844 by another. Both these bells and the clock were paid for by public subscription, and the bell was used for public purposes. Sunday morning, Mar. 2, 1884, while being rung for service, this bell was cracked. At the November election, following, the town appropriated \$250 to aid in purchasing another, on condition that the town continue to use it for fire and clock purposes. The new bell was hung Dec. 22, 1884. It weighs 1,500 pounds, and is tuned to the key of G. The clock did constant service till 1882, when the town purchased the present four-faced clock at an expense of \$500. It was placed in position in July of that year.

#### MEMBERSHIP

At the end of the first year after the church was organized, the membership was 17. In 1830, it was 28 ; in 1840, 39. In 1844, under the pastorate of Rev. Daniel O. Morton, with an addition of 16, there was a reported increase from 38 to 80. In 1848, the membership was reported as 85 ; in 1858, 81 ; 1868, 75. In 1871, under the pastorate of Rev. Silas Ketchum, there was a gain of 51, a total of 133 ; in 1875, 129 ; 1876, 141. In

1885, the membership was 116; in 1892, 130. The next year, there were reported 30 removals and a membership of 100. The present membership is 70.

#### PASTORS

- Rev. Samuel Arnold, 1826-May, 1828.
- Rev. Job Cushman, June, 1828-August, 1829.
- Rev. John S. Winter, October, 1831-March, 1837.
- Rev. John Wellman, May, 1837-1841.
- Rev. Joel Wright, as early as June, 1841-early in 1842.
- Rev. Daniel O. Morton, June 8, 1842-Mar. 25, 1852.
- Rev. Joseph Garland, June, 1852-January, 1857.
- Rev. John Clark, January, 1857-June 1, 1858.
- Rev. William S. Spaulding, February, 1859-1861.
- Rev. Charles F. Abbott, Aug. 14, 1861-July 1, 1866.
- Rev. Silas Ketchum, November, 1866-May 2, 1875.
- Rev. Albert W. Moore, May, 1875-May, 1877.
- Rev. John M. Hart, May, 1877-May, 1878.
- Rev. Edwin L. Jaggar, May, 1879-May 10, 1881.
- Rev. Hervey G. Pillsbury, May, 1882-Nov. 22, 1888.
- Rev. George W. Patterson, December, 1888-April 13, 1890.
- Rev. John W. Savage, Nov. 27, 1890-Aug. 2, 1902.
- Rev. Hugh F. Graham, August, 1902.

#### DEACONS

At the organization of the church, John Gutterson of Alexandria was elected deacon. He continued to serve till December, 1827, when he removed to another town.

Peter Wells and John S. Bryant were elected April 14, 1833. Luther Winchester was elected June 10, 1837.

Chester Stone and Gardner Bowers were elected Sept. 24, 1842. Both had filled this office in other churches, Mr. Bowers at Franklin. They were ordained Jan. 15, 1843. Rev. E. B. Tracey, of Boscawen, preached the ordination sermon; Rev. Isaac Knight, of Franklin, offered prayer, and the pastor imposed hands.

A. B. Sanborn, of New Hampton, was a deacon before uniting with this church. He acted as deacon here for several years previous to 1852, when he removed to Sanbornton, and his place was filled by Deacon Samuel Danforth, who had been a deacon in the church at Dana, Mass.

B. L. Boardman was also acting deacon here for some years.

Calvin Cass was elected in 1863; Jonathan Merrill, in 1863, and John F. Cass was elected Oct. 17, 1871. All these continued to act till their death.

Nathan B. Buttrick was elected Oct. 17, 1871, and George W. Sumner, April 16, 1879, and are still serving.



## CHAPTER XXV

### ECCELESIASTICAL—FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH AND SOCIETY

'Tis heaven alone that is given away,  
'Tis only God may be had for the asking.

—*Lowell.*

The Freewill Baptist denomination had its birth in New Durham, June 30, 1780. It was planted in fertile soil, and spread rapidly in the central part of the state. Probably the first decade of its existence had not passed before preachers of this denomination had penetrated this region and secured adherents to the new creed.

In March, 1803, Rev. David Fisk removed from Boscawen to the east bank of the Pemigewasset river opposite the lower part of Bristol, and settled on what is still known as the Fisk farm. He commenced at once to hold preaching services at his house, and some were converted. These united with a few of the Freewill Baptist faith then residing in Bridgewater village and monthly meetings were held, half the time on the Bridge-water side of the river and half the time on the New Hampton side.

One of those living in Bridgewater village who united with this band was Dr. Timothy Kelly. He was a man of much strength of character, and occasionally preached or held meetings as an exhorter. He thought it a matter only of his own concern how much spirituous liquors he consumed, and when his brethren sought to labor with him on this account he rebelled and broke up the society. Then a band of twelve organized another society with Rev. David Fisk at the head, as before. In 1810, <sup>1</sup> Mr. Fisk was ordained and given authority to administer the sacraments; viz., "baptizing, administering the Lord's

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<sup>1</sup> In 1804, this new denomination had so increased that it received legal recognition in the state by the passage in the legislature of a resolution "that the people of this state commonly known by the name of Freewill Anti pedo Baptist church and Society shall be considered as a distinct religious sect or denomination, with all the privileges as such agreeably to the constitution."

Supper, washing the saint's feet, and anointing the sick with oil." This society was called the "Second Freewill Baptist Church of New Hampton."

In Bristol village there was occasional preaching by ministers of this denomination in the Methodist chapel and in other places. In 1829, there was an extensive revival of religion in the Second Freewill Baptist church in New Hampton under the labors of Elder Dudley Pettingill, the fruit of which extended to Bristol village. The next year, the Fisk meeting-house in New Hampton was built.

It will thus be seen that Freewill Baptist influences were at work in this community many years before there was a church or society of this denomination in Bristol village.

On the establishment of the church at Bristol some of the Freewill Baptist organizations, in the near-by outlying districts, lost their vitality and soon ceased to exist. The members of the Second Church in New Hampton voted, in 1854, to disband, a part taking letters to the First Freewill Baptist church at New Hampton village, and a part to the new church at Bristol; the church in the Borough ceased to exist; and a society at South Alexandria lost its identity, and some of its members became a part of the Bristol society.

The Bristol society was organized Sept. 20, 1845, under the name of The Bristol and Alexandria Freewill Baptist Society. The word Alexandria was inserted because some of the organizers were from South Alexandria, as noted above, and not because it was a union society of the two towns. Steps were at once taken looking to the erection of a meeting-house; and Stephen Nelson, Favor Locke, William W. Pattee, and John M. R. Emmons were made a committee to select a location. It was decided to build a church forty-two feet wide and long enough to contain fifty-two pews. Thirty of the pews in the proposed church were subscribed for, but this was not enough to warrant building, and action was delayed till March, 1847, when the directors purchased of Walter Sleeper for \$50 the old Methodist chapel. The chapel was at once repaired and the pews sold to cover the expense.

Preaching was sustained more or less of the time from the organization of the society; Rev. Ebenezer Fisk and Rev. David Calley being each engaged for one-third of the time. Elder Calley commenced his services in the spring of 1847, and was supplying this people at the time of the organization of the church, at which time he was chosen pastor. On the 21st of September, 1848, the Freewill Baptist church was organized in the old chapel. The council consisted of Elders Fisk, Calley, and Amos Brown. The charge was given by Elder Fisk. October 3, following, Favor Locke and William Eaton were elected deacons, and the following covenant was adopted:

COVENANT OF THE FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH IN BRISTOL, ADOPTED  
OCTOBER 3, 1848.

## Preamble.

Having been brought, as we humbly trust, by divine grace to trust the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, through whose merits alone we hope to be saved; and believing that God requires us to unite our efforts to promote the interests of Christ's Kingdom on the earth, in order more clearly to understand our duty to God, to one another, and to the world, we adopt the following as our

## Church Covenant.

This church shall be known as the Free Will Baptist Church in Bristol. We agree to take the Holy Scriptures for our only rule of faith and practice, and to reject as human and dangerous whatever they do not require as of divine authority. We believe that the Treatise on the Faith of the Free Will Baptists contains a summary of the doctrines of the Bible, which we agree to own and defend according to the best of our ability. We solemnly covenant before God that we will strive by his assisting grace to exemplify our confession by a practice, which shall correspond to all which we have above professed. And we do now give ourselves publicly and renewedly to God to love and serve him till death—and to his people to live together with them in brotherly love and union. And we do solemnly covenant, that we will exercise a mutual Christian care and watchfulness over one another and will faithfully labor for the promotion of each others spiritual welfare by fervent prayer, faithful admonitions and affectionate rebuke if necessary—will endeavor to restore the erring in the spirit of meekness, and labor together by prayer, precept and example for the salvation of sinners.

We do covenant that we will contribute of our substance for the support of a faithful ministry among us, and the necessary means of grace, and will be devoted to the needy and especially to the poor of our own church; and we will as far as we are able attend upon the public worship of God, and the stated meeting of the church, and will [pray] for its prosperity and uplifting in the most holy faith; and we will not forsake it in adversity, but will bear each others burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. We will constantly maintain secret and family devotions, and we will religiously instruct those under our care, and will cordially cooperate with those who minister to us in holy things and will esteem them highly for their works sake.

We covenant that we will not traffic in nor use intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and that we will sustain the other benevolent enterprises of the day, as missions, Sabbath schools, moral reform, anti-slavery education, and all others which in the use of holy means, tend to the glory of God and the welfare of men.

We covenant and agree that we will love all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ, and that we will avoid all extravagance and sinful conformity to the world, and will abstain from all sinful amusements, as theatre, dancing and gambling, and from all vain festivals, and will refrain from all unchaste and profane conversation, and from the reading of wicked and corrupting publications. We will walk circumspectly towards those without, that the cause of God be not reproached on our account.

And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly and preserve us blameless to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ to join the glorified around the throne of God in ascribing blessing and honor and glory and power unto him that sitteth on the throne and unto the Lamb forever and ever. Amen.

Those who united with the church at its organization were William Eaton, FAVOR Locke and wife, John M. R. Emmons and wife, Mrs. Isaac Swett, Mrs. Sally Perkins, and Benjamin Q. Fellows.

Rev. David Calley closed his first pastorate of this church May 1, 1849, being obliged to relinquish public speaking on account of a throat trouble. Rev. Francis P. Newell succeeded him, and served till May 18, 1850.

In March, 1850, Elder Fisk proposed that the old chapel be torn down and a new edifice erected from the material, on land offered by him on Summer street. This was done a few months later and the present church was erected. The new edifice cost \$1,260, and \$900 was realized from the sale of pews. This work was done largely through the efforts and means of Elder Fisk, and he took the unsold pews in the new church as compensation. The pews in the old church were appraised at \$1 each, and Gilman Ingalls, Jr., Stephen Nelson, and Joseph Kidder were the building committee.

The new church was 40 x 48 feet square, and contained fifty-four pews. These were on a level except the singing seats in the south end which were raised two and three steps. The pulpit was between the two doors in the north end. Four years later, the basement was completed for a vestry.

The first pastor in the new church was Rev. Samuel P. Fernald, who commenced his services here the same day that his predecessor retired. He continued here till September, 1853, when he closed a most acceptable pastorate. Mr. Fernald was born in North Berwick, Me., May 25, 1809. He was ordained at East Wolfboro, May 26, 1833. He held pastorates at East Tilton, Northwood, Candia, Gilmanton Iron Works, where he remained nine years, Bristol, three years, Northwood, Portsmouth, Goshen, Me., Moultonboro, Tuftonboro, closing his pastorate at the last named place in 1870. He subsequently served one year at Holderness, two years at Water Village, and at Holderness again one year. He died in North Berwick, Me., June 9, 1888.<sup>1</sup>

On the retirement of Mr. Fernald, Rev. David Calley again assumed the pastorate of this church and continued till 1860, serving seven years. During this time, he saw the society placed on a firm basis and general prosperity attend it.

Rev. Hiram S. Sleeper labored here from May 20, 1850, till March, 1862. Mr. Sleeper was born in New Sharon, Me., Jan. 11, 1811. He was licensed to preach by the Farmington quarterly meeting in 1839, and was ordained in December, 1842. He served as pastor of the Freewill Baptist church at Gardner, Me., for two years; at Monhegan, Me.; at Phippsburg, Me.,

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<sup>1</sup> See Genealogies.





REV. DAVID CALLEY



four years. After preaching fifteen years, he entered the New Hampton Biblical Institute, but left before the end of the year to accept a call to the pastorate of the church at Upper Gilmanton, where he remained five years from November, 1855. After his Bristol pastorate, he served four years at Loudon, and was pastor of the Freewill Baptist church at Meredith Center when he died, Aug. 11, 1867.

Rev. David Calley, for the third time, became pastor of this church on the retirement of Mr. Sleeper, and continued another seven years. During this last pastorate, the church edifice was remodeled (1867). Ten feet was added to its length on the south, entries were made in the front end, the orchestra and the pulpit were transposed, the pews turned round and a furnace placed in the basement. These changes cost \$800, of which \$500 was raised by an assessment on the pews.

Rev. David Calley professed religion at the age of twenty-three, and the next year (1837) he received a license to preach. In May, 1842, he was ordained at the Sandwich Quarterly meeting, and the next month he became the pastor of the Freewill Baptist church at No. Tunbridge, Vt., where he remained till April, 1847. He then resigned and went to Plymouth to care for his father in his last sickness. During his residence at Plymouth, he preached at Holderness and other places, and commenced his labors as a supply for the church at Bristol. After retiring from his first pastorate at Bristol, he preached but once for three years; but, in 1852, he resumed public work and continued in the active work of the pastorate for forty years. After his second pastorate at Bristol, he returned to North Tunbridge, Vt., where he remained three years and then again returned to the Bristol church for another seven years. Mr. Calley thus served sixteen years as pastor of the Bristol church. To no one man does this church owe more than to Rev. David Calley. He was a man of great natural abilities, an excellent preacher, devoted, godly, and his pure life and disinterested labors endeared him to all classes in the community. He was of fine personal presence, standing six feet, two inches high. After retiring from the work in Bristol, he labored two years in Alexandria; eight years in Sandwich; two years again in Alexandria, and five years in North Sandwich till 1887, Center Sandwich, South Tamworth, and Meredith Center, where he closed his pastoral labors in May, 1892. Mr. Calley is still living in Bristol at the good age of eighty-seven, beloved and respected by all. He still does occasional service.

Rev. George J. Abbott commenced to serve this people as pastor June 1, 1870, and continued till September, 1873. In 1872, the audience room was finely frescoed. Mr. Abbott was born in Jackson, Me., in 1830. He was educated at New Hampton and ordained, June, 1858, at Unity. His pastorates

were South Monteville, Wayne, and Dover, Me.; Gonic, Bristol, Hampton; Apponaug, R. I., and at Oakland, Me., where he died Nov. 3, 1883, aged fifty-three years.

Rev. Lewis Malvern served this church as pastor from September, 1873, till March, 1876. Mr. Malvern was born in Cheltenham, England, June 9, 1846. He was educated at New Hampton, licensed to preach in 1867; and ordained by the Sandwich Quarterly meeting June 3, 1874. His first pastorate was Bristol, and his work here greatly strengthened this church and increased its membership. During his pastorate, a pipe organ was placed in the church at a cost of \$800. He left Bristol, and went to Laconia, thence to Manchester, and again to Laconia, where he filled a long pastorate. He is now pastor of a church in Portland, Me.

Rev. Lewis Malvern was succeeded by Rev. William C. Hulse, who served as pastor from August, 1876, till February, 1877. Rev. Nathan C. Lothrop assumed the pastorate of this church in May, 1877, coming from Candia, and continued till April, 1881. In January, 1879, the afternoon service at this church was discontinued. Mr. Lothrop fitted for the ministry at New Hampton, graduating from the literary department in 1861. Before coming to Bristol, he was pastor at South Berwick, Me., at Milton, Strafford, and Candia. Since leaving Bristol, he has filled pastorates at Deerfield, where he remained four and one-half years and added forty-two to the church; at Lebanon, Me., Contoocook, and Strafford Corner, and now at Contoocook.

Aug. 15, 1880, a farewell service was tendered Rev. Ebenezer Fisk at this church, it being the last Sunday previous to his departure for the West to make his home with his son. The communion was administered. Remarks were made by Rev. H. S. Thompson, of the Methodist church; by Rev. Newell Culver; Rev. E. L. Jaggar, of the Congregational church; by Mr. Fisk, and others. The service was very fitting and touching. When the Second Freewill Baptist church at New Hampton disbanded, Mr. Fisk took a letter to the church at New Hampton village, and yet he may appropriately be called the father of the church in Bristol. It was through his liberality that the church edifice was built, and in every emergency he was a liberal contributor. Mr. Fisk was a remarkable man. He was born in Boscawen, Oct. 1, 1802. He studied at the old institution at New Hampton, and when twenty years of age consecrated himself to God. He was licensed to preach in 1828; ordained by the Sandwich Quarterly conference Nov. 4, 1830, and at once became associate pastor, with his father, of the Second Freewill Baptist church in New Hampton. His father died Feb. 9, 1834, and he continued in charge of this church for twenty years. He was a farmer as well as a preacher, a man of spotless character, possessed an unusual amount of common





FREE BAPTIST CHURCH



sense and great native eloquence, gifted in prayer, of large sympathy with his fellowmen and great faith in God. He died at Jackson, Mich., Oct. 2, 1890, aged eighty-eight years and one day.

Rev. Geo. O. Wiggin became pastor of this church in April, 1882. He was ordained as a Christian minister and installed as pastor of this church at a session of the Sandwich Quarterly meeting in Bristol, Aug. 24, 1882. These services were largely attended and much interest was manifested. The program was as follows: Invocation and reading Scriptures, Rev. C. W. Griffin, Alexandria; prayer, Rev. J. W. Scribner, New Hampton; sermon, Rev. E. W. Porter, Lowell, Mass.; ordaining prayer, Rev. David Calley, Sandwich; charge to pastor, Rev. Mr. Scribner; right hand of fellowship, Rev. E. H. Prescott, New Hampton; charge to church, Rev. J. B. Davis, Meredith. Mr. Wiggin retired in April, 1886.

In July, following the retirement of Mr. Wiggin, Rev. Robert D. Frost became pastor and remained nine months, retiring in April, 1887. Mr. Frost was born in Sugar Grove, Ill., Oct. 15, 1846. He was graduated from Hillsdale college, March, 1873; from Bates, 1881, and ordained at Dover in February, 1874. March 18, 1874, he sailed for India as a missionary and returned in March, 1876. His pastorates before coming to Bristol were Limerick, Me., and Grafton, Mass. From Bristol he went to Block Island, R. I.

Rev. William A. Nealy assumed the pastoral care of this church in June, 1888, and he continued the work till declining health compelled him, in January, 1890, to tender his resignation, to take effect Feb. 1. He died June 28, following. Mr. Nealy was a most devoted and faithful man and he spared not himself to minister to his people. Mr. Nealy studied at Green Mountain seminary, and was ordained to the Christian ministry Dec. 22, 1872. Before coming to Bristol he was pastor of the Freewill Baptist church at Franklin, Vt.; Putnam, N. Y.; East Orange and Topsham, Vt.; Tiverton and Arlington, R. I.

Rev. J. W. Thomas succeeded Mr. Nealy. Mr. Thomas was ordained by the Rhode Island and Eastern Connecticut conference in 1866, before he had reached the age of twenty years. He labored with marked success among the churches of southern Massachusetts till 1877, when he went to the Pacific coast on account of his health, and became connected with the Golden Gate association of the Free Baptists. In 1890, he came east, and in August of that year assumed the pastoral care of this church and continued till May, 1894. Mr. Thomas was an efficient and faithful worker, and did good service for this church. He was ably assisted by Mrs. Thomas, who was an excellent gospel singer. She also took charge of the social meetings and filled the desk on the sabbath when her husband

could not be present. Since leaving Bristol, Mr. Thomas has filled pastorates at Brunswick, Me., and Rockland, Me. He is now living in Roxbury, Mass.

The church edifice was further improved in the spring of 1894, when the pews were reset, the orchestra placed at the right of the desk, carpets laid, colored glass windows put in, walls refrescoed, and the steeple rebuilt. The church was rededicated Thursday, June 28. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Rev. Geo. L. White, of New Hampton. Revs. G. O. Wiggin, David Calley and N. C. Lothrop, all former pastors, assisted in the service, and the benediction was pronounced by Rev. A. B. Meservey, Ph. D.

Rev. Simeon J. Weed commenced his services as pastor of this church May 1, 1895, and continued till March 31, 1897. Mr. Weed was born in Gallia County, Ohio, March 11, 1854. He was ordained in September, 1877, and was settled over the Harrisburg, Ohio, church. His other pastorates before coming to Bristol were Jennersville and Dunnings Creek, Pa.; Cottonwood, Ill., and Colebrook and Green, Ohio.

Rev. Albert W. Jefferson was pastor of this church from June 1, 1897, till Mar. 1, 1900. This was Mr. Jefferson's first pastorate. He was a fine scholar and an eloquent speaker, and the church made substantial gains during his pastorate. His retirement was a great loss to the church and the community. On Saturday evening, before his departure, a reception tendered him was largely attended and he was presented with a quilt containing the names of 500 people. On leaving Bristol, Mr. Jefferson assumed the pastorate of the Free Baptist church at Pawtucket, R. I.

Rev. Taplin J. Winslade succeeded Mr. Jefferson. Mr. Winslade was born in London, Eng., in 1870, and came to the United States when twenty years of age. He took a course of study at the Gordon Missionary Training school in Boston and then labored for some years as an evangelist. He first preached as a supply for this church Mar. 8, 1900, and Mar. 27, following, a call was extended to him to become its pastor, which he accepted. Jan. 30, 1901, he was ordained in the Free Baptist church. The opening prayer was offered by Rev. Daniel Onstott, pastor of the Methodist church; the sermon was by Rev. J. Franklin Babb, of Ashland; presentation of candidate, by Rev. F. L. Wiley, of Laconia; prayer of consecration, by Rev. J. Erskine, of Meredith, who was joined in the laying on of hands, by Mr. Wiley and Rev. O. D. Patch, of Manchester; charge and conferment were given by Mr. Patch; the right hand of fellowship was extended by Mr. Davis; address to the church, Rev. E. G. Eastman, of Meredith; welcome to the field, Rev. John W. Savage, pastor of the Congregational church; benediction by Rev. Mr. Winslade. Mr. Winslade was an indomitable



worker, and under his labors the attendance at church and the social meetings largely increased and that of the Sunday-school doubled. He closed his pastorate here June 30, 1902, and accepted the pastorate of the church at Orr's Island, Me., and at the same time, began a course of theological study at Cobb Divinity school, Lewiston, Me. In October, following, he assumed the pastorate of the Free Baptist church at Lisbon Falls, Me., continuing his studies at Lewiston. Mr. Winslade was succeeded by Rev. H. E. Wilson, who is now serving this church.

## MEMBERSHIP

In 1850, the membership of this church was reported as 34 ; in 1860, as 69 ; 1870, 70 ; 1880, 126 ; 1890, 107 ; 1895, 101 ; 1900, 100 ; 1902, 105.

## PASTORS

David Calley, Oct. 3, 1848-May 1, 1849.  
 Francis P. Newell, May 1, 1849-May 18, 1850.  
 S. P. Fernald, May 18, 1850-September, 1853.  
 David Calley, September, 1853-May 20, 1860.  
 H. S. Sleeper, May 20, 1860-March, 1862.  
 David Calley, March, 1862-March, 1870.  
 George J. Abbott, June 1, 1870-September, 1873.  
 Lewis Malvern, September, 1873-March, 1876.  
 William C. Hulse, August, 1876-February, 1877.  
 Nathan C. Lothrop, May, 1877-April, 1881.  
 A. B. Sherwood, supplied four months.  
 E. C. Clark, supplied four months.  
 George O. Wiggin, April, 1882-April, 1886.  
 R. D. Frost, July, 1886-April, 1887.  
 W. A. Nealy, June, 1888-Feb. 1, 1890.  
 J. W. Thomas, August, 1890-May 1, 1894.  
 S. C. Eldridge, supplied a few months.  
 George W. Sanborn, supplied 24 Sundays.  
 S. J. Weed, May 1, 1895-Mar. 31, 1897.  
 Albert W. Jefferson, June 1, 1897-Mar. 1, 1900.  
 Taplin J. Winslade, March, 1900-July 30, 1902.  
 H. E. Wilson, Aug. 1, 1902.

## DEACONS

Favor Locke, October, 1848-June, 1870.  
 William Eaton, October, 1848-Sept. 1, 1852.  
 Joseph Rollins, Sept. 1, 1852-June 1, 1870.  
 Moses W. Favor, June 1, 1870, resigned.  
 Nicholas T. Chase, June 1, 1870-Nov. 27, 1893.  
 Everett J. Gordon, Aug. 1, 1901.  
 Noah L. Sinclair, Aug. 1, 1901.

## CHAPTER XXVI

### ECCLESIASTICAL — CATHOLIC CHURCH

Shall I ask the brave soldier who fights by my side  
In the cause of mankind, if our creeds agree?  
Shall I give up the friend I have valued and tried,  
If he kneels not before the same altar with me?

—*Moore.*

The first Catholic service in Bristol was held by Rev. Father Timothy W. Coakley in 1888. At that time, there were within five miles of Bristol village, one hundred communicants of that faith. From that time, services were held monthly, or whenever convenient. In January, 1900, Rev. Father Coakley became the resident pastor of these people. He estimated that there were in this vicinity, at that time, two hundred communicants. Father Coakley is a fine French and English scholar. He was educated at Phillips-Exeter academy, and at the Grand seminary in Montreal, where he was graduated in 1886, and at once entered the priesthood.

On coming to Bristol, Father Coakley at once took steps for the erection of a church. The site selected was the corner of School and Mayhew streets. Plans were drawn by Chickering & O'Connell, architects, of Manchester; work was commenced May 1, 1900, by the builder, Frank X. Laflamme, of Manchester, and the church was completed in August, following. This church is 40 x 75 feet, and is provided with all modern conveniences. The ceiling and walls are finely frescoed. There are nine memorial windows, the chief one being that in the organ loft, which represents St. Cecilia, the patron saint of music. This was the gift of Rt. Rev. Dennis M. Bradley. The marble altar was the gift of Sisters of Mercy, Manchester. The seating capacity is three hundred. The entrance and anterooms for the officiating clergy are on Mayhew street, the balcony for the choir and bell tower on School street. It is called St. Timothy's Catholic church.

This church was dedicated Sunday, Aug. 23, 1900. The exercises began by Low mass at 8 a. m., celebrated by Rt. Rev. Bishop Bradley of Manchester, assisted by Rev. Father McGill, of St. Joseph's cathedral, Manchester, and Father Coakley. The High mass began at 10:30, and was sung by Rev. Father Finnegan, of Claremont, assisted by Mr. Burke, of Boston, and the regular choir of Ashland. At this mass, a sermon was



ST. TIMOTHY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH





preached by the Rt. Rev. Bishop, who took for his text the following: "Blessed are the eyes that see the things which you see. For I say unto you that many prophets and kings have desired to see the things that you see and have not seen them, and to hear the things that you hear and have not heard them." The sermon was preceded by an address, in their native tongue, to the French people present.

Among the clergy in the sanctuary were Rev. Daniel W. Murphy, P. R., of Dover, and Rev. P. J. Finnegan, of Claremont. Rev. Father McGill ably assisted the choir in rendering Leonard's mass, and Miss Mary Little, of Ashland, was a valuable assistant to the choir. The organist was Mrs. W. P. Norris, of Ashland.

Immediately preceding the High mass came the dedicatory services of the church, with its various prayers, the exorcisms, the sprinkling with holy water, and other ceremonies, all pointing to the withdrawal of the edifice from profane purposes to the sacred work of the church.

Father Coakley continued to reside in Bristol till May, 1901, when he removed to Enfield; but Bristol is still included in his parish, and he holds services here monthly, or oftener, as occasion requires.

## CHAPTER XXVII

### EDUCATIONAL

There in his noisy mansion, skilled to rule,  
The village master taught his little school.

—*Goldsmith.*

The proprietors of New Chester set aside one share, consisting of four lots of land of one hundred acres each, for the benefit of schools. These lots were No. 25, in the First Division, Nos. 1 and 37 in the Third Division, and No. 89 in the Fourth Division.

In 1775, an article was first inserted in the town warrant to see if the town would raise any money for schools. Instead of raising any, the town voted to sell the timber on Lot No. 37, for the benefit of schools. That a part of this timber was sold seems probable from the fact that, in 1784, it was voted to call in the money due for timber for the benefit of schools. In 1776, it was voted that "there should be money raised for schools"; but the record is silent as to how much, if any, was voted. In 1777, \$40 was raised, and Peter Sleeper was made a committee to hire a schoolmaster. This small amount appears to have been all the extra money raised for schools previous to 1785.

It is apparent that the people were not indifferent to the necessity for schools, and yet the difficulties in the way of their support were so great that one year passed without any school being held in the town. For this neglect a complaint was filed with the grand jury at the September term in 1785, and the town was indicted and fined fifteen shillings and four pence. As trivial as this fine may appear, the town discharged the additional burden in two annual payments.

In December, following the indictment of the town, a town meeting was held, and \$60 was voted for schools. Thomas Crawford, Ensign Reuben Wells, and Carr Huse were made a committee to hire schoolmasters and mistresses. At the annual meeting in March, 1786, a like sum was raised, and the next year eighteen pounds. In 1788, \$80 was voted, payable in Indian corn, grain, or neat stock, and the next year twenty pounds was raised, payable in the same way. In 1790, twenty pounds was again voted, and a committee was elected consisting of Theophilus Sanborn, Cutting Favor, and John Smith to look after the pine timber on the school lots. From the first

settlement of the town, depredations were committed on all the public lots, thus constantly annoying the people.

Lot No. 37, in the Third Division, was next west of the mill lot on Smith's river, extending on both sides of the stream a long way westward. In 1778, Joshua Tolford, the owner of the mills on this stream, asked the privilege of flowing this lot, and it was voted at the town meeting that year, "that Joshua Tolford, Esq., Should have a Privilege of Flowing a Part of the School Lot at the Lower End of the Town By his Giving an obligation not to Damnify Sd Lot But the Sd Tolford is not to Flow Sd Lot if it Does Damnify it."

In January, 1791, the timber on this lot was sold at auction, in lots of ten thousand feet each. The advertisement for the sale was as follows :

New Chester, 24 Jany, 1791.

To be sold by us Subscribers this Day at Public Vendue the whole or part of the pine timber on the School Lot in New Chester, to be struck off to the highest bidder the Conditions of sale are as follows Said Timber Shall be Sold by the Thousand and the pay shall be in Corn three shillings rye four or wheat five or neat stock at that reckoning first the highest bidder shall be the purchaser. 2d the purchaser shall have thirteen months to Move Said Timber, thirdly the pay shall be made in thirteen months from the Sale and fourthly wee in our Capacity engage the purchasers liberty and privilege to Cut and Carry off what they shall purchase provided it is within thirteen months and We in our Capacity Bind our Selves in the Penal sum of fifty pounds Lawful money for the proper performance of the above articles &c.

Theophilus Sanborn, } Committee.  
John Smith, }

Theophilus Sanborn, Vendue master.

John Smith, Clerk.

N. B. the above purchasers are to Cut and Carry off pines that will make a board 13 inches wide.

Seven lots of ten thousand feet each and two lots of twenty thousand each were sold at the uniform price of two shillings and three pence per thousand. Joshua Tolford, John Smith, Joseph Hoyt, Jonathan Merrill, Elijah Sanborn, and John Colby were the purchasers.

Two months after this sale, the town voted to sell a lease of the lot for nine hundred and ninety-nine years, and it was sold at auction April 8th of that year. This lot was then described as an "exceedingly good lot of land with a good privilege for mills upon Smith's river, which runs across the whole width of said lot, Lying on Coos road with a large quantity of good white pine timber with a considerable quantity of intervale with good upland well situated for a farm containing 105 acres." The conditions of this sale were that the interest on the purchase money was to be paid annually in gold or silver, grain or neat

stock; that the principal was to be paid as soon as the purchaser desired, and that the purchaser was to have no right to the timber sold at auction till the thirteen months had expired. The lot was sold to John Smith for \$398.33.

These sales provided a prospective income to the town for the benefit of schools, and evidently stimulated the interest in education. The same year the town voted \$150 for schools, payable in grain; but the next year, when the interest money began to be available, the town voted to raise by taxation only such an amount as the law required. After this date, small sums were voted each year till 1799, when again the vote was not to raise any school money.

The collection of interest due the town was the source of much trouble, both at this time and for many years later. In 1797, a committee was elected with power to bring suits for its collection.

The school advantages of these years were indeed meagre. The schools were held at private houses in various parts of the town, as was most convenient, no district lines existing, and the scholars traveled long distances to attend. The schoolmasters were usually residents of the town and their availability was evidently as much considered as was their fitness for the position.

New Chester was first divided into school districts in 1795, the selectmen being a committee for this purpose. They divided the town into seven districts as follows:

No. 1. From the Franklin line through Hill village to the southerly line of Cutting Favor's farm.

No. 2. From Cutting Favor's south line to the northern slope of New Chester mountain, including Profile Falls, called the "Mountain District."

No. 3. From the north line of the Mountain district to Newfound river.

No. 4. Southern part of Hill west of District No. 1.

No. 5. Hill Center.

No. 6. Burrough and Murray hill.

No. 7. All that part of the town lying west of Newfound river and lake.

The earliest name mentioned as a schoolmaster is that of Truman Sawyer, who taught two months in 1786 in the "lower district"—Hill village. He also taught two months in other parts of the town, presumably in what is now Bristol and Bridgewater. Nathaniel Merrill taught three months in the winter of 1788-9, a part of the time in the "lower district." Samuel Woodman was schoolmaster on Hemp hill in 1788, while Edward Flint taught in various parts of the town for twelve years or more previous to 1800. From 1789 to 1795, Allen Minor, Benjamin French, Benjamin Emerson, Nathaniel Howe, and Onesiphorus Page each taught one term or more in the Mountain



district. One of these teachers boarded with Sherburn Sanborn, and another with Cutting Favor. In the winter of 1792-3, the school in the Mountain district was of two months' duration, and in 1794 it was of the same length in the lower district. Other persons that appear as having taught previous to 1800 are Caleb Welch, Samuel Woodman, Stephen Moses, Elias Howard, "Master" Hobbs, "Master" Forbes, Edward Evans, Samuel Wells, William Gale, and "Master" Bowers who received \$16 for teaching two months. In 1800, Betsey Sleeper was paid \$12 for teaching three months, and \$7.34 was paid for her board for the same time.

It was a common practice for the teacher to collect his pay directly from the taxpayer. Here are some receipts and orders showing the manner of doing the business connected with the schools:

New Chester, Mar. 17, 1787.

Then received of Carr Huse and Thomas Huse ten shillings and three pence which is in full for their school tax for the year 1787 which is in full for their part for seven months and six days schooling in New Chester. I say received in full per me.

Edward Flint, school master.

To Carr Huse:

Please pay to my father, Joseph Flint, the sum of two pounds and fourteen shillings in corn or grain and you will greatly oblige our friend,

Edward Flint.

March 13, 1789.

New Chester, Mar. 18, 1788.

Received of Nathaniel Sanborn five shillings & eight pence L M for the school tax that was made the year 1787 Received by me.

Edward Flint.

New Chester, Mar. 18, 1793.

To John Smith, Esq., please to pay unto Thomas Huse twenty two Shillings & three pence L M to be paid in corn or grain it being for his boarding School Master Karr for the Lower District in New Chester five weeks and four Days & his Receipt Shall be your Discharge for the Same and we will allow it to you out of what is coming to the town from you for the interest Due and for the pay for the timber Sold off the School lot.

Carr Huse,	}	Selectmen
William Murray,		of
Theophilus Sanborn,		New Chester

New Chester, Mar. 18, 1792.

Then received of Ephraim Webster the sum of six shillings being for his school tax for the year 1787. I Say Received by me.

Edward Flint.

Feb. 21, 1788.

Received of Mr. Alexander Craig Seven Shillings and six pence towards his School Rate it being for one week's Schooling as Witness my hand.

Samuel Woodward.

With such methods as these in vogue it is not strange that the school taxes were soon in an inextricable tangle. As the only way out of the difficulty, it was voted to wipe out all unpaid school taxes assessed previous to 1788.

In 1800, New Chester for the first time elected a school committee for each district to hire teachers. This committee was as follows: District No. 1, Carr Huse; No. 2, Cutting Favor; No. 3, Peter Sleeper; No. 4, John Brown; No. 5, Thomas Favor; No. 6, William Murray; No. 7, Samuel Sleeper.

In 1795, it was voted that each district should build its own schoolhouse and keep it in repair. This vote was repeated the next year, and in 1797 the town passed, without action, an article to see if the town would build a schoolhouse in each district. In 1801, however, the town voted to raise \$400 for schoolhouses. It would thus seem that no schoolhouses existed in town at this latter date. In 1802, the district lines were changed, making nine districts instead of seven. From 1801 till 1805, \$1,300 was raised and expended on schoolhouses.<sup>1</sup> A building committee, one for each district, consisted of Carr Huse, John Merrill, Daniel Sanborn, Jr., John Wadleigh, Capt. Phineas Sargent, William Murray, Philip Ferrin, Moses Watts, and Jonathan Dickerson. After these schoolhouses were completed, each district was left to maintain its own school buildings.

With the erection of schoolhouses, a new era dawned on the educational advantages of the town. From 1803 till 1819, when the town was again divided, from \$200 to \$500 was raised each year for schools, and longer and better schools was the result.

In 1811, for the first time, a superintending committee of three was elected, and this committee was continued each year thereafter.

#### BRIDGEWATER

At the first town meeting in Bridgewater, Mar. 10, 1789, nine pounds was raised for the support of schools in addition to what the law required. In 1794, a petition to divide the town into districts was considered, but the only action taken was to divide the upper part of the town into two districts. In 1796, however, a committee of seven was elected to divide the town into school districts. This committee consisted of Moses Sleeper, Benjamin Emmons, Daniel Morse, Benjamin Boardman, Daniel Sleeper, Jacob Gurdy, and John Harriman. The districts established were as follows:

No. 1. That part of Bristol village north of Newfound river and as far east as John Kidder's.

No. 2. From John Kidder's to David Powell's.

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<sup>1</sup> Among the items of cost were, labor, 67 cents per day; boards, \$4 per thousand, and nails \$1.83 per thousand.

No. 3. From David Powell's and Jonathan Heath's to Samuel Andrews's, including John Spiller's.

No. 4. From Timothy Peaslee's to W. M. Pingree's, later the Webster place.

No. 5. From Jonathan Peaslee's, including Alexander Craig's and Col. Thomas Crawford's.

No. 6. From Alexander Craig's including Abraham Sanborn's, Daniel Brown's, James Sargent's, and Ezekiel Worthen's.

No. 7. From Abraham Sanborn's on east side of lake, summit of the hill and the Nelson neighborhood, including Peter Wells's.

No. 8. The Locke neighborhood.

No. 9. From Jonathan Jewett's to the Fifth district; to Daniel Tilton's and James Fuller's.

Two years later, district lines were changed sufficiently to make another district—No. 10. In 1797, an unsuccessful attempt was made to raise money with which to build schoolhouses, and it was not till 1805 that any definite action was taken. Then the town voted not only to build a schoolhouse in each district, but also to raise \$500 with which to do the work. A committee of one was elected for each district and allowed sixty-seven cents per day for his services. Before commencing this work the number of districts was increased to twelve. The town appears to have voted no further amount for its schoolhouses, and their care or completion was left to the several districts.

The people of Bridgewater were as generous in the support of schools as those in other towns, and, we might add, as changeable as those in other towns then and later. During the years from 1788 till 1811, the town would one year vote to raise \$100 extra school money, the next year nothing; again \$300, and the next would call in all the interest money and expend that for schools.

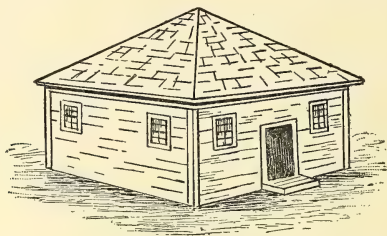
The same lax methods of collecting the school tax that prevailed in New Chester existed in Bridgewater, consequently the town voted, in 1809, to wipe out the school tax of 1802, and to adopt a new method of collecting its school taxes. This was, to have a collector in each district. The town clerk, in recording the proceedings, called these the "distribution collectors"—not so bad a name after all.

During the last decade preceding the incorporation of Bristol, little light is thrown upon the educational interests of the town by the town records. There were slight changes in district lines, and each year the town raised \$100 or \$200 for schools in addition to what the law required, until 1819, when it raised \$400. In only two years is there a record of a school committee having been elected.

The first schoolhouse, or the building first used for a school

in what is now Bristol village, stood just east of the residence of Rufus Eaton, on Summer street. It was a small four-roofed building about twenty feet square, and was used as early as 1790. This is the only one as far as known that was erected previous to 1805, and shows that the people in Bridgewater village provided a building in which to hold a school long before the town moved in the matter. This building is still standing, though not on the same site as then, being now utilized as a hen house. Dr. Timothy Kelly taught in this building in 1790. He lived at that time in a building that stood where William G. Kelley recently resided on Summer street. Dr. Kelly was a practicing physician, and, if an urgent call was received during a session of the school, he dismissed the school and made the time up at the close of the term. If the call were not urgent he made the patient wait. Mrs. Betsey Sleeper also taught here.

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SCHOOLHOUSE ON WEST SIDE NORTH MAIN STREET.

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Another early school was at the cabin of Oliver Blake, who lived where the Clay house was destroyed by fire a few years ago in the Nelson neighborhood. Mrs. Blake was the teacher. The first schoolhouse built by Bridgewater for this neighborhood stood about six rods west of the site of the farmhouse of Reuben Kidder, at nearly the highest point of the highway on the southwest slope of Bristol Peak. At this time the road on the hillside made a long detour to the west from this farmhouse. (See Highways.) It was on this old road that the schoolhouse was located. Here were thirty or forty scholars, coming from the east side of the lake, from the summit of the hill, and from the Nelson neighborhood. Among the teachers here were Samuel T. W. Sleeper and Plummer Dodge. The schoolhouse was destroyed by fire in 1816, and another was built at the foot of the hill near the one that now stands in old District No. 3, not far from the O. S. Hall, now the U. H. Kidder, farmhouse.



When Bridgewater erected a schoolhouse in what is now Bristol village, it was placed where is now the marble shop of Fred S. Fall, on the west side of North Main street north of Hotel Bristol. It was but little larger than the old one on Summer street, but at that date was more central. It continued to be used till after the incorporation of Bristol in 1819.

#### BRISTOL

At the first town meeting in Bristol, Benjamin Locke, James Minot, Abraham Dolloff, and Nathan Colby were elected a committee to divide the town into districts. This committee reported at a special meeting held Nov. 6, following, dividing the town as follows :

District No. 1 comprised the territory north of Smith's river and south of a line on the north slope of New Chester mountain.

No. 2 included the whole of Bristol village.

No. 3 extended from the east line of No. 2, at the Worthen burying-ground, to Rowell Straw's, just east of where Solon Dolloff now resides, and included the Nelson neighborhood.

No. 4 extended from the eastern boundary of No. 3 to the Ten Mile brook.

No. 5 extended from the Ten Mile brook to the Bridgewater line on the River road, and also included the farms of Timothy Chandler and Stephen Thurston Brown, west of this road.

No. 6 included the Locke neighborhood.

No. 7, that part of the town next to Bridgewater line west of Bristol peak, including the greater part of the western slope of the hill towards the lake.

No. 8 included North Bristol,<sup>1</sup> and extended a short distance north of the outlet of the lake on the west shore and to the Bridgewater line on the east shore.

No. 9 included that portion of the town west of the lake.

The schoolhouses erected by New Chester and Bridgewater were utilized by the new town to some extent, but during the first three or four years a considerable sum was expended by the several districts in building or repairing its schoolhouses. District No. 1 expended \$81.40; No. 2, \$301.57; No. 3, \$95.04; No. 4, \$100.15; No. 5, \$102.40; No. 9, \$112.70. District No. 7 had no schoolhouse till several years later. The amount ex-

<sup>1</sup> The first schoolhouse for No. 8 stood on the east shore of the lake near Clark Fuller's home, about half way between the foot of the lake and E. T. Pike's present farmhouse. The next was in the woods on the turnpike south of the lake; the present one is near the outlet of the lake.

pended in District No. 2 was for the purpose of completing the schoolhouse on Lake street, commenced by Bridgewater before the incorporation of Bristol. This was a building about 30 x 35 feet. It stood on the west side of the street nearly opposite the great elm near the residence of Dea. N. B. Buttrick, with a door in the south end, and was painted red.<sup>1</sup> The old-fashioned fixed seats were on an inclined plane, those for the boys on the west side facing the center, and those for the girls on the east. In the floor space in the center was an immense box stove for heating the room, and in the north was a large platform on which was a stationary desk about five feet square. Here ruled the master, sometimes with love, but more often with a beech rod or ferrule, and a trial of physical strength sometimes occurred. On one occasion, about 1847, the teacher, Reuben Rollins, was laid senseless on the floor by a blow with a stick of wood in the hands of one of the young men then attending school.

In 1829, \$405.17 of the amount received from New Chester on settlement, and \$138.05, received that year from the state literary fund, was set aside as a town school fund, the interest to be used annually for the benefit of schools. A few years later, this fund amounted to \$874.35.

In 1839, when Bristol purchased a town farm, "a part" of the school fund was taken for that purpose, and the balance was evidently used for schools or other purposes, as in time this school fund entirely disappeared.

In 1845, the number of scholars in the village had become such that there was a call for a division of the district. A division of the school into two or more grades seems not to have been thought of. In the fall of 1848 the old red schoolhouse was destroyed by fire. This hastened a solution of the question concerning the division of the district, and, in 1849, the town voted to divide the village into three districts. The territory west of the middle of North Main street and the middle of Central Square, and the north side of Pleasant street, west of the river, comprised No. 10. The south side of Pleasant street, west of the river, and the south side of the river comprised No. 11. The eastern part of the village remained as No. 2. A new schoolhouse was erected on the site of the red schoolhouse, for No. 10, which is now a two-tenement house owned by George A. Robie. No. 11 erected a small schoolhouse between South Main and High streets, next south of the present engine house, now a dwelling house, and No. 2 erected a two-story schoolhouse on Summer street, now owned and occupied by Richard S. Danforth.

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<sup>1</sup>In 1832, Eliza Jane Bowen taught in the red schoolhouse. She required the scholars to halt at the door when leaving the room, make a bow or courtesy and say "Good-bye Miss Eliza Jane."

While schoolhouses were being erected in these districts, schools were held where opportunity presented. One was held in the tailor shop of James Musgrove on North Main street and one in the hall over Daniel S. Smith's store, corner of South Main and Beech streets.

The matter of raising extra school money was generally left with the several school districts, though for a few years, commencing in 1872, the town raised \$1,000 each year, giving \$400 to Union district and the balance to the districts outside of the village, the more nearly to equalize the school advantages of the town.

In each district there was a prudential committee, whose duty it was to hire teachers and look after the material interests of the schools. A superintending committee, usually appointed by the selectmen, looked after the educational interests of all the schools, and was expected to make at least two visits to each school each term.

The amount expended for schools in each district varied according to the amount of taxable property. In 1853, the smallest amount raised in any district was in No. 7 — \$8.40; but with this small amount the district managed to have a summer school of seven and one-third weeks for its twenty pupils. The largest amount raised that year was in No. 2 — \$86.56, and here the length of the school was twenty-two weeks. The total number of scholars in town this year was 288; average attendance in summer, 135; in winter, 202. The average monthly wages paid to male teachers was \$13.40; to female, \$7.96. The total cost of schools this year was \$487.35; average cost of each scholar, \$1.52.

Little attention was given to the comfort or attractiveness of the schoolroom. In 1855, it was thought worthy of mention by the superintending school committee that some of the districts had provided shades for the windows of the schoolhouses, and that No. 4 had discarded "the old stone hearth and fireplace with each particular stone eskew" and then had "a good and firm one of brick." This does not indicate that all the schoolhouses were still thus poorly provided for, but that some were. This year, by voluntary subscription, District No. 2 purchased a set of outline maps, but no reference books of any kind had yet found their way into a schoolroom in town.

Statistics concerning the number of scholars during the first few years after the incorporation of Bristol are not available but in every district the schools were large. The Locke neighborhood had a school of over thirty pupils, the Nelson neighborhood about the same, while the two districts combined now have less than ten. One reason for the decrease in the number of children in the out-districts is that many of the farms have been deserted. The attractions of the West, of city and village life,

have drawn the people from the cultivation of the hard soil of the hill farms, and the cultivated fields have been turned into pastures. What is known as the Smith pasture, lying partly in Bristol and partly in Bridgewater, on the hill, is composed of what was once thirteen farms, all supporting large families. Another reason for the decrease in the number of scholars is that the school age is now much shorter than formerly. Seventy-five years ago, when schools were kept only about six weeks in the year, every "child" from four to twenty-one years of age and sometimes even older, attended school. Now but few pupils over sixteen years of age are found in any of our town schools. If they attend any school it is the seminary or the college elsewhere. Another reason more potent than all the rest for the falling off in the number of scholars in our public schools is the decrease in the number of children born to American parents. Where seventy-five or even fifty years ago there were many families of a dozen or more children, to-day a family of half this number is a rare exception. In the year 1839, Bristol apparently reached the high water mark in the number of children enrolled as scholars. To show the great change that has taken place since then, we present here the number of taxpayers and the number of scholars between four and twenty-one years of age in 1839, and the number of taxpayers and the number of scholars in town, between five and twenty-one years of age in 1885, the last year before the town system of schools went into effect. It will thus be seen that the number of taxpayers has more than doubled and the number of scholars decreased by nearly one-half.

Dist. No.	1839		1885	
	Taxpayers	Scholars	Taxpayers	Scholars
1	22	41	22	15
2	112	127	410	155
3	18	25	22	4
4	12	27	9	3
5	31	40	10	2
6	21	36	21	5
7	5	18	7	2
8	28	38	38	25
9	16	63	25	12
	<hr/> 265	<hr/> 415	<hr/> 564	<hr/> 223

In 1883, Dr. George H. Calley, the superintending school committee, called the attention of the town to some of these startling facts. He showed that since 1852 the number of scholars in the schools, outside of the village district, had decreased from 157 to 59 — almost two-thirds; and nearly half of this decrease had taken place during the previous ten years. The money for the support of schools in these districts was \$40



more than in 1852. In District No. 7 there had been no school for two years because there was not a scholar in the district; while in No. 4 there were six weeks of schooling, and in No. 9, eight weeks, in the summer, with two pupils in each, and a fall school of ten weeks, with three pupils, one coming from Alexandria. A majority of the school buildings were over fifty years old and generally dilapidated.

In his report Dr. Calley recommended a re-districting of the town, and the selectmen were instructed to appoint a committee to do the work. The residents of these districts were not, however, a unit as to where the new lines should run, and no one could be found to serve as the committee. Accordingly matters drifted till 1885, when the legislature created the town district system. Unfortunately districts organized like Union District in Bristol were not disturbed, and the town district of Bristol, therefore, consisted only of the territory outside of the village. Under these circumstances the schools in the out-districts of Bristol failed of the full benefit of the law. An article was inserted in the warrant for the annual school meeting of Union School District in March, 1886, to see if the district would unite with the rest of the town to form one district, but this was not agreed to.

The first school meeting of the town district was held at the town hall, Mar. 23, 1886, when C. H. Mudgett, Solon Dolloff, and Elijah Sanborn were elected members of the school board. The new board made few changes in the schoolhouses of the town under the new law. The schoolhouse near J. M. R. Emmons's farmhouse was moved to near Solon Dolloff's for the accommodation of the pupils of former Districts 3 and 4, and a new house was erected in the northeast part of the town near the Pemigewasset, for the pupils of Districts 5 and 6. Schools were continued in Districts Nos. 1<sup>1</sup>, 8 and 9, but discontinued in No. 7. These changes reduced the number of schools from eight to five. In 1900, the number of scholars in the town district was fifty-five.

Previous to the organization of Union District, the educational advantages of the district schools were supplemented by private schools. In April, 1836, the following advertisement appeared in the *New Hampshire Patriot*: "Mr. Brownson would inform the inhabitants of Bristol and vicinity that he has opened a high school in Bristol village for the reception of gentlemen and ladies. From his experience in teaching he flatters himself that general satisfaction will be given. Tuition, \$3 per term." How long Mr. Brownson taught is unknown, but a so-called high school was generally taught one term in the year and that

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<sup>1</sup> For many years previous to 1901 the school in District No. 1 accommodated pupils from adjoining territory in Hill, and the revenue received from the town of Hill on this account materially lengthened this school.

in the fall. Amos Worthing taught a high school in the hall over Daniel Smith's store at the corner of South Main and Beech streets, and at an earlier date Polly Whittemore taught a school in the entry of the Congregational church. A small private schoolhouse was erected in the early forties for the use of Miss Mary Woolson, on North Main street, in the garden just south of the present schoolhouse. It is now the small dwelling next south of the residence of Gustavus Roby on Lake street.

About 1848, Levi Bartlett erected the building on the west side of North Main street, now used by Fred S. Fall as a marble shop. This was designed for private schools and as a vestry for the Congregational church, and was generally known as the academy. It was provided with fixed benches like the schoolrooms of that period and the roof was surmounted with a steeple in which was a bell. The late Hon. George W. Murray, of Canaan, kept a high school there soon after it was opened, and Rev. F. N. Peloubet, who now has a national reputation as a Sunday-school worker, kept school here one term. Miss Hattie Green and others also kept school here. A state teachers' institute was held here about 1855.

Mrs. Harriet E. Edgerly taught a private school about 1862, before her marriage, where is now the residence of Mrs. John C. Wheet on Spring street, and for some years after 1870 she taught in the small building that stands in the garden connected with the residence of Moody O. Edgerly on Lake street. About 1860, the wife of Rev. William S. Spaulding, associated with a Mr. Caswell and a Miss Spear, held a high school in the town hall. Miss Alia Briggs taught a private school in what was more recently known as the old Grand Army hall on Pleasant street; and here Miss Ellen H. Fisher was teaching when she was engaged, in 1867, to teach one of the grades in the new Union district school.

#### Union School District No. 2.

Union School District No. 2, was formed by the union of Districts 2, 10 and 11, in January, 1864. After the union, the schools in this district were continued as before till the new schoolhouse was completed. At a meeting of the new district held in the town hall, Mar. 11, 1864, it was voted to build a schoolhouse of brick at a cost not to exceed \$3,500. In March, 1865, the limit of cost was placed at \$5,000, and the committee was instructed to have the house completed by Jan. 1, 1866, but the time was subsequently extended one year. The exact cost of the building has never been determined, but it was in the neighborhood of \$16,000,<sup>1</sup> exclusive of the annex.

<sup>1</sup>The schoolhouse tax raised for this building previous to March, 1875, was \$11,079, and the notes then outstanding were reported as amounting to \$4,875.

August 24, 1867, the district voted to adopt the Somersworth act and maintain a graded school, and Rev. Silas Ketchum, Rev. James Thurston, Rev. David Calley, and Hon. L. W. Fling were appointed a superintending school committee for this district. Subsequently the superintending school committee of the town had supervision of this school till the district was incorporated in 1877.

In the summer or early fall of 1867, while the second story of the new schoolhouse was all one room and before the seats were put in, a social gathering was held here that was largely attended by the citizens. The two cornet bands then in Bristol furnished music, and a pleasant evening was passed.

Schools were first held in the new building Oct. 7, 1867, with four departments. The teachers were: Primary, Sarah L. Day; intermediate, Addie J. Emmons; grammar, A. Melissa Gordon; high, Ellen H. Fisher.

In 1884, the primary department was so overcrowded that a portion were accommodated in the Congregational vestry. In 1892, an annex was built to the schoolhouse for the intermediate department at a cost of \$1,200, thus allowing the whole of the first story of the main building for the primary departments.

June 21, 1877, the legislature passed a special act incorporating the district. The act provided for a board of education, consisting of six members, having the powers of both prudential and superintending school committees, to serve three years each, without pay. At the first annual meeting after the incorporation of the district, 1878, a full board of education, consisting of six members, was elected and \$400 extra school money was raised. At the next annual meeting in March, 1879, the district voted not to raise any extra school money, whereupon five of the committee resigned. This was the first school meeting of Union District after the passage of the law allowing women to have a vote in school affairs; a large number were present, and three of their number were elected to fill the vacancies thus created. Women have taken part in each school meeting and been elected on the board each year since.

In time it became desirable that one member of the board should have the immediate supervision of the schools, and in order that the district might have authority to pay for such services, the law was amended in 1889. The amendment authorized the board to receive such compensation as the district might allow, to be apportioned among the members according to the service rendered by each.

No attempt to maintain strictly a high school, where pupils could fit for college, has succeeded, simply for lack of pupils. The close proximity of several schools of a higher grade has drawn away so many that the district thought it not wise to maintain a high school for the few that remained. The last at-

tempt was in 1895, when A. L. Pitcher was employed as teacher at a salary of \$800.

The length of schools in this district has been from thirty to thirty-nine weeks each year — usually thirty-six.

In 1900, the number of scholars in the town district was 51; the number of weeks of schooling, 19. The cost of schools was \$489.05. The wages paid per month to teachers was from \$20 to \$30; average cost per scholar, \$9.75.

In Union District the same year the number of pupils was 208; number of weeks of schooling, 36; the cost to the district, \$2,536.01. Wages paid per week to teachers: High school, \$15; other departments, \$9 per week. Average cost per scholar, \$12.19.

Inspectors of schools, or superintending school committees, were first elected in Bridgewater in 1810; in New Chester, in 1811. Previous to 1820, this office was filled but twice by elections in Bridgewater; in New Chester, each year. In Bristol this office was undoubtedly filled each year till 1886, when the town system of schools went into effect, but there were several years when there was no record of an election or appointment. From 1886, in the town district, the school board has performed the duties previously discharged by both the prudential and superintending school committees.

The following are the names of those who have served as superintending school committee, as members of the school board of the town district and as members of the board of education of Union District No. 2.

The date at the left indicates the year when elected; the figures at the right show the number of consecutive years served from that date.

#### SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

##### New Chester

1811	W. W. Sargent	9	1815	John Smith	1
	Ebenezer Kimball	4	1816	Jerahmeel Bowers	2
	Isaac Winchester	1	1818	George W. Sumner	1
1812	Dr. Sethus Forbes	8	1819	Luther K. Madison	1

##### Bridgewater

1810	Thomas Crawford		1814	Chauncey Booth	
	Dea. Joshua Fletcher	2		Benjamin Boardman	
	David Smiley				

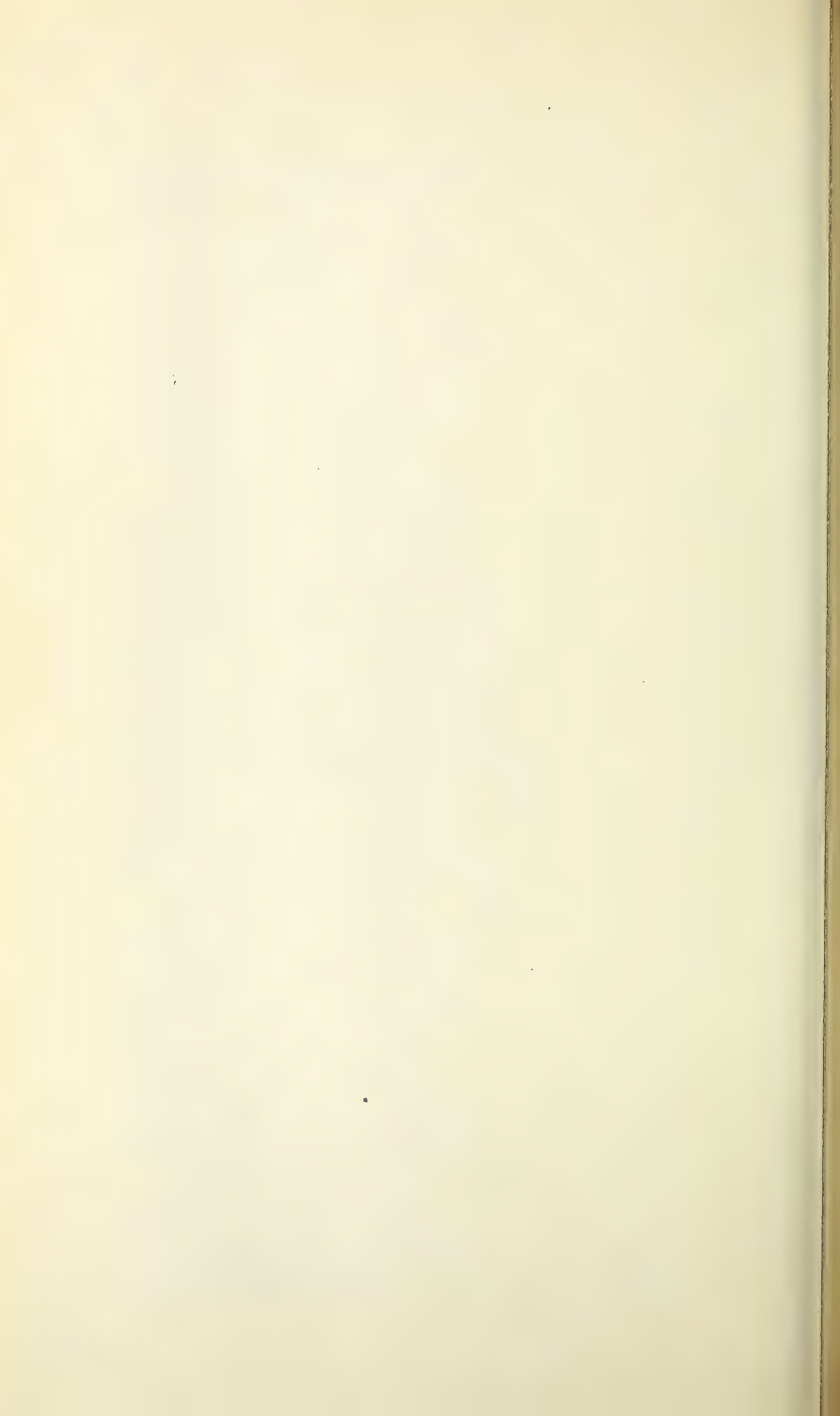
##### Bristol

1820	Moses H. Bradley	8	1822	Dr. Samuel Smith	7
	James Minot	1	1823	Robert Smith	1
	William Lewis	2		Joseph Moore	1





SCHOOL-HOUSE, UNION DISTRICT



1823	Gilman Ingalls, Jr.	1	1842	Josiah Minot	3
1824	Nathaniel G. Upham	1		Rev. Daniel O. Morton	1
	Capt. Ones. Page	2	1845	Dr. Moody C. Sawyer	1
1826	Nathaniel G. Upham	1		Rev. Daniel O. Morton	3
	Joseph B. Eastman	1	1846	Rev. A. H. Worthing	3
1827	Joseph Moore	1	1847	Dr. Jacob S. Eaton	1
1828	Jerahmeel Bowers	2	1848	No record	
	Robert Smith	1	1849	Dr. Moody C. Sawyer	1
1829	Peter C. Carleton	1		James Moore	2
	Samuel T. W. Sleeper	1	1850	Dr. M. C. Hoyt	2
	Joseph Moore	1		N. B. Bryant	2
1830-31	No record		1851	Dr. Ira S. Chase	1
1832	Samuel Smith	} Did not serve	1852	Rev. Calvin Holman	1
	Robert Smith		1853	George W. Tenney	4
	Nicholas Dolloff		1857	Lewis W. Fling	1
1833-4	No record		1858	Rev. Josiah Hooper	1
1835	Joseph Moore	3	1859	Samuel K. Mason	2
	Dr. Jacob S. Eaton	3	1861	Rev. H. S. Sleeper	1
	Jonathan Emmons	1	1862	Rev. John Currier	1
1836	Rev. John S. Winter	1	1863	Rev. Charles F. Abbott	1
	Rev. Matthew Newhall	1	1864	Levi D. Johnson	2
	Samuel H. Stevens	2	1866	Dr. James M. Bishop	3
1837	Samuel T. W. Sleeper	4	1869	Rev. Silas Ketchum	3
1838	Nathaniel S. Berry	1	1870	Dr. Chas. C. Odlin	1
	Nicholas Dolloff	3	1872	Rev. Chas. F. Abbott	1
1839	Solomon Cavis	1		Dr. James M. Bishop	2
	Dr. Moody C. Sawyer	2		George T. Crawford	3
	Robert Smith	2	1873	Samuel E. Holden	2
1840	Samuel H. Stevens	1	1875	Dr. James M. Bishop	2
1841	No record			Charles Forrest	1
1842	Dr. Jacob S. Eaton	3	1877	Nancy A. Durgin	3
	Samuel H. Stevens	5	1880	Dr. George H. Calley	4
	Dr. Moody C. Sawyer	1	1884	Dr. James M. Bishop	1

## School Board of Town District

1886	Calvin H. Mudgett	2	1895	Edwin T. Pike	3
	Solon Dolloff	5	1896	Hiram T. Heath	6
	Elijah Sanborn	7	1898	Silas S. Brown	3
1888	Charles N. Drake	1	1900	Charles F. Huckins	3
1889	Almon C. Hastings	3	1901	Wilbur F. Gale	3
1891	Augustus J. Ferrin	3	1902	LaForest S. Ballou	2
1892	Charles N. Drake	3	1903	Hadley B. Worthen	1
1893	Calvin H. Martin	3		Abbie A. Curtice	1
1894	Sarah F. Worthen	6			

## Board of Education Union District No. 2

1878	Dr. Hadley B. Fowler	1	1878	George M. Cavis	1
	George A. Emerson	1		Rev. Nathan C. Lothrop	1

1878	Dr. James M. Bishop	1	1888	Mae L. Crosby	2
	Lewis W. Fling	8	1889	Walter Dole	
1879	Sarah J. Lothrop	2	1890	Richard W. Musgrove	6
	Mary E. Ballou	2		Charles W. Fling	3
	Allen W. Bingham	1	1891	Dr. Channing Bishop	6
	Anna P. Bartlett	1		John H. Brown	2
1880	Myra S. Judkins	1		Myra S. Judkins	2
1881	Dr. James M. Bishop	2	1892	Laura A. Berry	3
	George H. Calley	3	1893	Rev. John W. Savage	2
	Charles H. Calley	1		David M. Calley	4
	Margaret H. Fling	3		Julia A. Kirk	2
	Emily A. Drake	3	1895	Kenson E. Dearborn	3
1882	Martha Alexander	3		Dr. John C. Wheat	2
1883	Ira A. Chase	3		Albro Wells	8 <sup>1</sup>
1884	Kenson E. Dearborn	3	1896	Fred H. Ackerman	6
	Robert A. Horner	1	1897	Rev. John W. Savage	2
1885	Rev. Hervey G. Pillsbury	1	1898	Clara J. Fields	5 <sup>1</sup>
	Laura A. Berry	3		Charles W. Fling	4
1886	Rev. George J. Judkins	5		Ida A. Weymouth	5
	Carrie C. Dearborn	4	1899	Eva S. French	4
	Rev. John A. Bowler	1	1902	Frank N. Gilman	2 <sup>1</sup>
1887	William C. White	2		Roswell Cutler	2 <sup>1</sup>
	Margaret H. Fling	1	1903	Addie M. Drake	1 <sup>1</sup>
1888	Hattie E. Edgerly	3		Emma P. Berry	1 <sup>1</sup>
	Dr. Hadley B. Fowler	3			

Those who have served as superintendents in Union district, commencing with 1886, are, Rev. George J. Judkins, 1886-'90; Myra S. Judkins, 1891-'92; Dr. Channing Bishop, 1893-'96; Rev. John W. Savage, 1897-'98; Ida A. Weymouth, 1899-1900; Eva S. French, 1901-'02; Ida A. Weymouth, 1902; Addie M. Drake, 1903<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>Now serving.



## CHAPTER XXVIII

### BRISTOL IN LITERATURE

He that writes  
Or makes a feast, more certainly invites  
His judges than his friends; there's not a guest  
But will find something wanting, or ill-drest.  
—Howard.

To American literature Bristol has made a substantial contribution. The town has produced poets, prose writers, journalists, teachers, theologians, and critics. Many Bristol writers have achieved distinction; among them, Rev. John Brodhead Wentworth, Frederic Adolphus Moore, Rev. Silas Ketchum, Marian Douglas, Josephine Augusta Cass, Annie Sargent Hammond, Charles Fletcher Lummis, and Prof. Fred Lewis Pattee.

Rev. John Brodhead Wentworth, D. D., LL. D., a leading divine of the Methodist Episcopal church, was the first native of Bristol to attain distinction as an author. He was born on the Homans farm, at the western base of Bristol Peak, Aug. 29, 1823. When he was about eight years old, his parents moved to Dover. He was prepared for college in the public schools of that city and at the seminary at South Newmarket, the predecessor of the Northfield and Tilton seminaries. He was graduated from the University of Vermont, Burlington, in 1848. After two years as teacher in Dover and Rochester, he removed to Attica, N. Y., where, in 1851, he began an eminent career as a Methodist divine. He became a member of the Genesee conference, and, with the exception of two years as pastor of the M. E. church at Evanston, Ill., remained a member till his death. He held the leading appointments of the conference, was presiding elder ten years, conference secretary two years, a delegate to the General Conference six times, and a trustee of Syracuse University twenty years. He received his honorary degrees from the University of Vermont in 1861. He was the author of several theological works, the most important of which was a metaphysical work on *The Logic of Introspection; or, Method in Mental Science*. This book was issued by Nelson & Hunt, New York, in 1886. It called forth very complimentary reviews from the press of the country. Dr. Brodhead died in August 1893.

Frederic Adolphus Moore, journalist and poet, was born in

Bristol, Feb. 11, 1826. He attended school at the Hebron academy and the New Hampton Literary institution, and went to Manchester to read law; but he studied Emerson, Carlyle, and Horace Greeley more than he studied Blackstone, and he finally gave his whole attention to journalism. In 1851, he established *The Manchester Mirror*, and was the first editor of that paper. From 1852 to 1854 he was associated with Abraham Lincoln as a writer for *The Springfield (Ill.) Journal*. With M. M. Pomeroy, he founded *The LaCrosse Democrat*. He resided in LaCrosse from 1854 to 1862, and was for several years editor of *The Democrat*. He was then associate editor of *The Daily Wisconsin*, published in Milwaukee. Later, he was a resident of Washington, D. C., where he reported for *The Daily Wisconsin*, and had charge of the reporter's gallery. Mr. Moore was the author of several books, and was a poet of some note. In 1850, he compiled *The Book of Gems; a Gift for all Seasons*. He died at Nashua, Dec. 7, 1888, while *en route* to his summer home in Goffstown. The following poem from his pen was published in *New Hampshire Poets* :

#### THE BACHELOR'S SONG.

A single life's the life for me,  
Bright sunny isles are there;  
I'll dash wide o'er its bounding sea,  
Nor love nor hate the fair.  
With fearless heart and manly pride,  
Against the surging strife,  
My peaceful bark will gallant ride,  
Untroubled with a wife.

Who tamely lets a woman's art  
His foolish heart enthrall,  
Will surely learn, too late, alas,  
That love's a humbug all!  
'Tis all a cheat, a lie, a show,  
To trap poor silly men —  
Old maids to Bedlam all may go,  
And ne'er come back again!

In manhood's prime 'tis downright sin  
To run such odds for life;  
Mid countless blanks, to only win  
A useless, worthless wife;  
And when, by fate or fortune blest,  
Which would indeed be worse,  
The painted, bauble prize, at best,  
May prove a splendid curse.

A wife's a pearl of tempting hue,  
But stormy waves are round it,  
And dearly will a mortal rue  
The day when first he found it.  
If all her locks were gleaming gold,  
Where gems like dewdrops fall,  
One passing hour of life, free-souled,  
Were sweetly worth them all.

The bird that wings the sunny sky,  
 To greet the rosy morn,—  
 The stag that scales the mountain high,  
 When rings the hunter's horn —  
 When he shall seek the crowded plain,  
 Or birds their prison-cage,  
 Then I'll be found in Hymen's chain,  
 To bless a future age.

Rev. Silas Ketchum, a successful clergyman and a man of literary attainment, deserves a brief mention in this chapter by virtue of an eight years' pastorate of the Congregational church. Among his published works are: *History of the Philomathic Club*; *Eulogy on Henry Wilson*; *Diary of the Invasion of Canada by the American Army in 1775*; *Special Geography of New Hampshire*; and *Paul on Mars' Hill*. Nearly all of these works were published after Mr. Ketchum left Bristol in 1875. At the time of his death, in 1880, he had in preparation histories of the Ketchum and Doty families in America, and an elaborate *Dictionary of New Hampshire Biography*.

Mrs. Annie Douglas (Green) Robinson is a writer of much ability under the *non de plume* of Marian Douglas. She was born in Plymouth Jan. 12, 1842, but when she was a girl, her parents moved to Bristol. Mrs. Robinson has since resided in Bristol, and here she has done all her literary work. She received the greater part of her education in private schools. Mrs. Robinson is the author of the following works: *Picture Poems*, a volume for young people published in 1873 by J. R. Osgood & Co., Boston, and republished in 1883 by J. M. Bradley & Co., Philadelphia; *Peter and Polly*, a story of the Revolutionary war, published in 1876 by J. R. Osgood & Co.; *Poverty Year; or, a Story of Life in New Hampshire in 1816*, published by T. Y. Crowell & Co., New York, in 1901; and *Days We Remember*, a tasteful volume of verse just published by the Gorham Press, Boston. All but seven of the poems in this volume had already been published in *Harper's Bazar* and other periodicals. Her poems have irregularly and infrequently appeared in *Harper's Bazar*, *Harper's Weekly* and various other magazines and journals, but she is best and most willingly known as a writer of poetry for children. Of the two following poems from her pen, the first, published in *Harper's Weekly*, is one of the most popular of her writings for children. *The Veteran* was published a few years ago in *Harper's Bazar* and is included in Mrs. Robinson's latest volume.

## STARTING

They sit upon the barnyard fence,  
 The baby-swallows in a row:  
 Four little, dusky, silken things,  
 With soft bright eyes, and close-shut wings.

Their mother flutters to and fro ;  
 The golden-rod is all aglow,  
 The maple shows one scarlet leaf ;  
 The time to stay is growing brief.  
 They must be ready. For their sakes  
 A constant twittering she makes :  
 "Try, try, my downy darlings, try  
 To spread your little wings and fly."

They sit unheeding on the fence,  
 The baby-swallows in a row ;  
 They see no cause for haste at all.  
 They look so innocent and small !  
 What will befall them when they go ?  
 How much they have to learn to know !  
 All the strange mystery of flight  
 Above the sea in storm and night ;  
 And all its raptures, circling round  
 A sky with sunset roses crowned.  
 What swallow hopes, and fears, and cares,  
 And loves and dangers will be theirs ?  
 But nevermore within the nest  
 They'll feel their mother's sheltering breast.  
 Yet still that mother, for their sakes,  
 This constant, troubled twittering makes ;  
 "Try, try, my downy darlings, try  
 To spread your little wings and fly."

#### THE VETERAN

Another and another wreath —  
 We deck new graves each spring,  
 And smaller grows the gray-haired band  
 Whose hands the garlands bring.  
 Grave veterans, we follow slow  
 The dull beat of the drum ;  
 There's one brief march before us now,  
 And, Comrades ! *we* shall come  
 One sleep to share, and o'er each grave,  
 The starry flag we loved shall wave !

We mourn you not ! The days seem far  
 Since side by side we fought,  
 And onward to the meeting place  
 The way is now so short !  
 Not many May-times shall we hear  
 The summons of the drum ;  
 We wait, with unforgetting hearts,  
 Till comrades ! *we* shall come  
 One sleep to share, while, o'er each grave,  
 Thank God ! the starry flag shall wave !

Josephine Augusta Cass, A. B., writer of dainty and melodious verse, was the daughter of Nason W. and Augusta (Shaw) Cass. She was born in Hill, Jan. 15, 1855, and died at the Massachusetts Homœopathic hospital, Boston, Nov. 12, 1889, aged 34 years, 9 months, 27 days.



When she was eight years old, Miss Cass came to Bristol with her parents, and attended the school in the district where she resided. She was prepared for college at Tilton Seminary, where she was valedictorian of her class. In the fall of 1877, she entered Wellesley College, and completed her course there in 1880, taking the degree of Bachelor of Arts. At Wellesley, she was distinguished for classical and mathematical scholarship, no less than for literary gifts. She made a number of happy and graceful translations of German songs, some of them at the request of the Beethoven society's director, who approved their quality by use at his concerts. In her Sophomore year, she won the Durant prize for the best German boat-song; and in her Senior year she was elected, by her class, writer of the farewell song for the Tree-Day. She pursued a graduate course of two years at Wellesley, assisting in the English department of the college. At the invitation of the trustees, she was poet at the commencement exercises of 1885.

After leaving college, Miss Cass taught at Dana Hall, Bridgeton, N. Y., chief of the Wellesley preparatory schools; in Illinois University, and in the Meriden, Conn., high school. At the last named place she became involved in a controversy between the school authorities and the Catholic clergy, over the sale of indulgences by the early Catholic church, and she distinguished herself by her knowledge of history. Contrary to the requests of the school committee, she resigned her position at Meriden, being bent on the execution of a cherished project of continuing her historical studies abroad. Accordingly, she sailed for England, and began her studies at Newington College, Cambridge. The English climate, however, proved too harsh for her fragile constitution; the seeds of consumption were sown, and although the ambitious student completed her year of study at Cambridge, she returned to her native land only to pass through the discipline of a long illness which ended in her death.

Thus the young singer fell by the way, her sweetest music still unsung. Her poems, for the most part modestly published in *The Boston Transcript*, *The Christian Union*, *The Springfield Republican*, and other journals, although some found their way into more distinguished columns, and one won a prize of some magnitude, attracted much quiet notice for their subtle melodies, grace of phrase, and intensity of feeling. A child of the hills, nature was from earliest remembrance her refreshment, inspiration, and delight. She was a young woman of splendid traits of character and a poet of rare possibilities.

Of the selections from her work here given, the first received a prize offered by *The Sunday Budget*, and the last two appeared in *The Boston Transcript*.

## IF LIFE WERE A BANQUET

If Life were a banquet, and Beauty were wine,  
 And Being the cup to contain it,  
 What duty had man save at ease to recline,  
 Drink deeply, and never disdain it?  
 If Life were a banquet, and Beauty were wine,  
 And Being the cup to contain it!

If Life were a banquet, and Glory were wine,  
 And Pain were the strong bowl that held it,  
 Would any man pause ere he quaffed, or repine  
 At the cost; though his heart's blood had swelled it?  
 If Life were a banquet, and Glory were wine,  
 And Pain were the strong bowl that held it!

If Life were a banquet, and Love were the wine,  
 And pure lips alone touched the chalice,  
 What soul would refuse for a draught so divine  
 To purge itself wholly from malice?  
 But Life *is* a banquet, and Love *is* the wine,  
 And pure lips alone touch the chalice.

## IN EXILE

In the hush of the midnight I dream, love,  
 Of a city that lies by the sea;  
 Of a lighthouse I catch the red gleam, love,  
 As I pace the dim shore-path with thee.

The waves roll in from afar, love,  
 And call us with voices of power;  
 The white fire of one solemn star, love,  
 In the clear west shines like a flower.

And the twilight sky broodeth low, love,  
 O'er roof and gable and spire,  
 As Heaven loved the city, and so, love,  
 Were stooping to beckon her higher.

To eastward the moon mounteth slow, love,  
 The blue heaven's invisible stair;  
 And drops on the dark tide below, love,  
 Her mantle trails, silvery fair.

\* \* \* \* \*

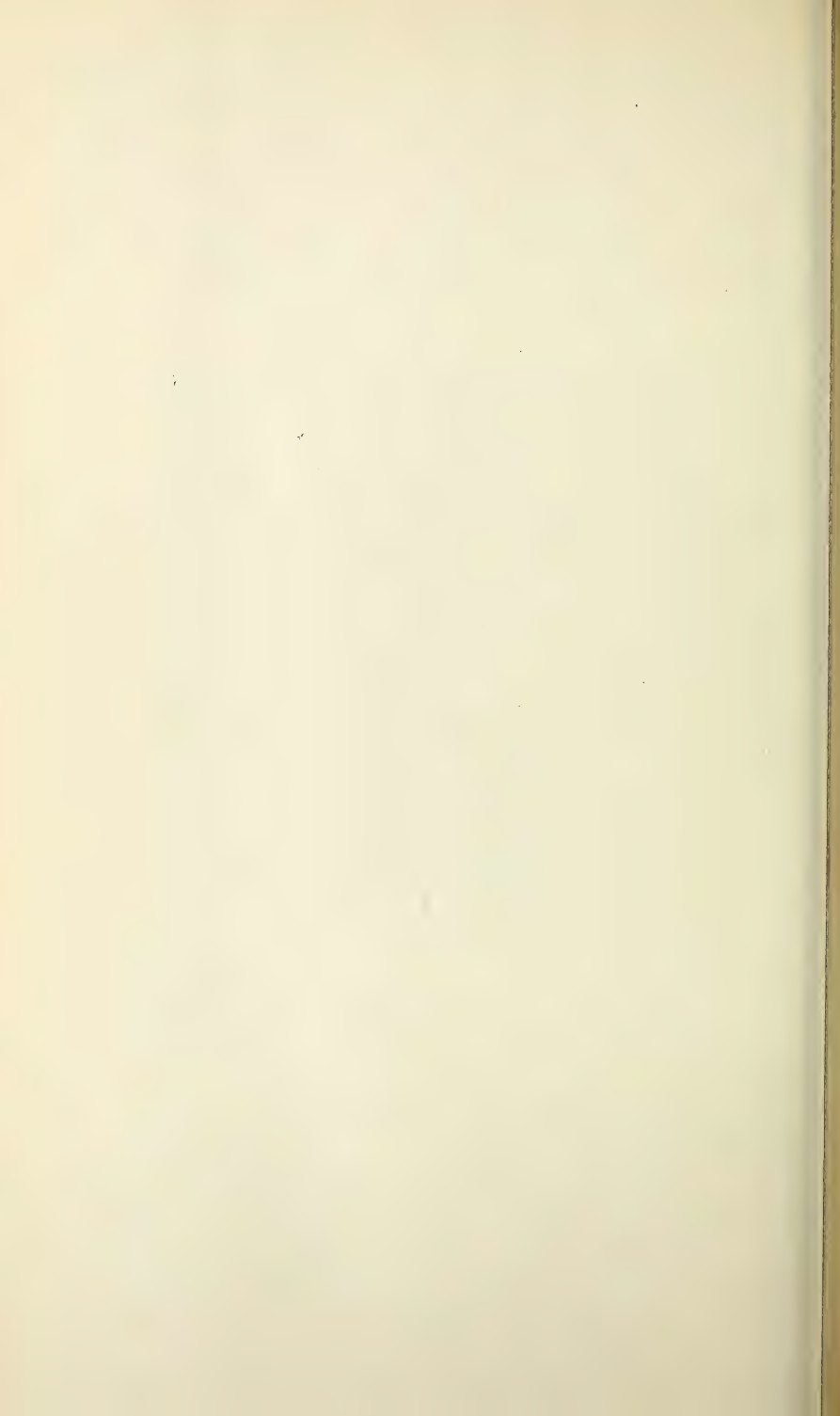
I wake and find it a dream, love,  
 Sea, moon, star, voice, shining eyes,  
 The red light's long level beam, love,  
 Call of waves and the night-wind's replies.

Those sweet summer nights by the sea, love,  
 Alas! were they dream-phantoms, too?  
 If I turned from this distance to thee, love,  
 Could I prove their existence anew?

Do the waves dash high as of old, love,  
 When the great storms buffet them sore?  
 Do the rain-robcs the gray cliffs enfold, love,  
 And the wild winds shout to the shore?



JOSEPHINE AUGUSTA CASS, A. B.





Should I find the small tower-room again, love,  
 Where we worked through the long, sultry hours?  
 Does the poplar tree rustle as when, love,  
 I thought it the falling of showers?

Is there really a city, a home, love,  
 Warm hearts and strong, clasping hands?  
 Quite alone in my exile I roam, love;  
 Strange skies bend o'er the strange lands.

When I'm weary and lonely and sad, love,  
 And nothing seems real but my pain,  
 At least let me know thou art glad, love,  
 In thy home by the heaven-touching main.

#### A SUMMER DAY'S DESIRE

'Tis, oh! to go afloat  
 Adown the rippling stream,  
 The leafy shores unnoting —  
 To float as in a dream!

No friend to sit anear me,  
 No hand the helm to guide;  
 But wind and wave to steer me  
 At the will of the idle tide!

With the red sun just a-setting,  
 Behind a wooded hill,  
 With a breeze the tree-tops fretting,  
 And a far-heard whip-poor-will!

Oh! a truce to pain and pleasure,  
 And one brief hour of rest,  
 In a peace beyond all measure,  
 On the cooling river's breast!

For my heart is hot and weary,  
 With the bliss and the woe of life;  
 The field I see not clearly,  
 For the smoke of the constant strife.

One hour of toil's fruition  
 To look at truth aright,  
 Then down from the mount of vision  
 Will I come and join the fight.

Annie Sargent Hammond, daughter of Walter Harris and Serena Lane (Farrington) Sargent, was born in Boscawen, March 21, 1857. She received her education at the Penacook academy and the Elmwood institute, Boscawen. For several subsequent years, she labored as a teacher. She has resided in Bristol about eighteen years.

Mrs. Hammond has published two works in book form. *The Rights and Wrongs of Men and Women* was published in 1895, by the Enterprise Printing House. *Twentieth Century Facts*, published by the same house, appeared two years later. Two other productions, *The Beautiful and Wrecks of the Beauti-*

*ful*, and its sequel, *The Medium*, are now printing at the Scroll Publishing House, Chicago. Mrs. Hammond's poems have appeared irregularly in New Hampshire and Massachusetts journals and in various religious papers. Her poetry, as well as her prose, is for the most part religious. We append one of her latest productions.

#### THE MOTHER OF GOD

The heart of the Mother is beating, I ween,  
 With joy that never was told ;  
 She stands by this world with its broken harp,  
 In love that never grows cold.  
 Majestic and gentle the poise of her hand ;  
 Her voice is love's native tone ;  
 Noblest of women in the fair, far land,  
 Tho' she mingles, she still moves alone.  
 Not an anguish, not a triumph  
 In which she may not share,  
 For, in the Garden, up the Mountain,  
 I *know* she was with *Him* there.  
 This grand, mysterious Angel  
 Touched the vibrating, quivering strings  
 Of a mystical lyre in the realms above  
 Where Love is the King of Kings ;  
 All celestial voices responded  
*Amoroso, doloroso*, and *forte* bold,  
 In hope to evolve, post humously,  
 "The half that had never been told " ;  
 Tho' constantly, sweetly, the singers sang,  
 They could not end the strain ;  
 And earth and air and the deep still rang  
 For one mute, missing chord in vain ;  
 Then God called on a lone human heart,  
 Lest its pain make it *seem* proud and cold,  
 But it only gave out a minor part  
 Of the half that had never been told.  
 Next, a new and queenly woman  
 Emerged from the stillness of God,  
 To break up the fallow ground  
 Where none save angels had trod ;  
 Yet, vain was *her* eager look  
 For a new thing under the sun ;  
 Before her the open Book,  
 With truths set one by one.  
 At last, from mysterious silence,  
 The *Mother of Love* drew anear ;  
 And Mary spake to life kindly,  
 For the sake of *Christ*, she held dear : —

"The passion of birth by a seraphim wakened,  
 Told *all* the love story, I ween,  
 When *my* Baby's form of divinest sweetness  
 In the manger cradle was seen.  
*Youth* hopes over much for the morrow,  
*My* heart to its past ever clings,  
 While the weary white hand of sorrow,  
 Sweeps over its broken strings.  
 Methinks the lost, melodious chord,

Will be found on earth, as in Heaven,  
 When hearts feel anew the touch of that hand  
 Through which cruel nails were once driven.  
 Then, in whatever form of spirit  
 Thy soul shall awaken, and shine,  
 It will surely bear some likeness  
 To this *Other Soul* of mine.  
 Here, in our home of peace, and rest,  
 Very near to the crystal sea,  
 I live with Him I love the best —  
 My Son — of Galilee.  
 I've learned to forgive your suffering world —  
 I, who am Christ's own Mother!  
 Then, wilt *thou* not try, through life's little while  
 To understand, and *forgive* one another?"

Charles Fletcher Lummis, author, explorer, and editor, although not a native of Bristol, is a Bristol product in that his mother, Harriet (Fowler) Lummis, was a Bristol woman, and in that he himself spent a few years of his childhood in this town. We give him, therefore, a brief space here. Among his best known works are: *The Awakening of a Nation* (Mexico to-day); *The Spanish Pioneers*; *Some Strange Corners of Our Country*; *A Tramp Across the Continent*; *The Man Who Married the Moon* (Pueblo Indian Folklore); *The King of the Bronchos*; *The Goldfish of Gran Chimú* (Peru); *The Right Hand of the Continent*; *The Enchanted Burro*; and *Spanish America*. Mr. Lummis is now editor of *Out West*, "a magazine of the old Pacific and the new," published at Los Angeles, Cal.

Prof. Fred Lewis Pattee, A. M., teacher of English and literature, and writer of poetry, history, and criticism, was born in Bristol, Mar. 22, 1863. After improving the meagre school advantages of Bristol and of Alexandria, to which latter town his parents had removed when he was a few years old, he entered the office of the *Bristol Weekly Enterprise*, with no thought of continuing study. At the end of a year, however, he entered the New Hampton Literary institution, from which he was graduated in 1884. The next four years he spent at Dartmouth college, teaching school in New Hampshire and in Maine winters, and working summers in hotels as waiter, or on the farm. He was graduated from Dartmouth in 1888, with the degree of A. B. Three years later, he received his A. M. in course. At New Hampton he was editor-in-chief of the school publication, *The Hamptonia*. At Dartmouth he was an editor of *The Dartmouth Literary Monthly*, and upon graduation was class poet.

After his graduation from college, Professor Pattee secured a place on *The Springfield* (Mass.) *Republican*, having decided to follow journalism as his profession; but on advice of his teacher of literature at Dartmouth, Prof. Chas. F. Richardson, he gave up journalism to devote himself to teaching. He spent the next year as principal of the schools at Eatontown, N. J.,

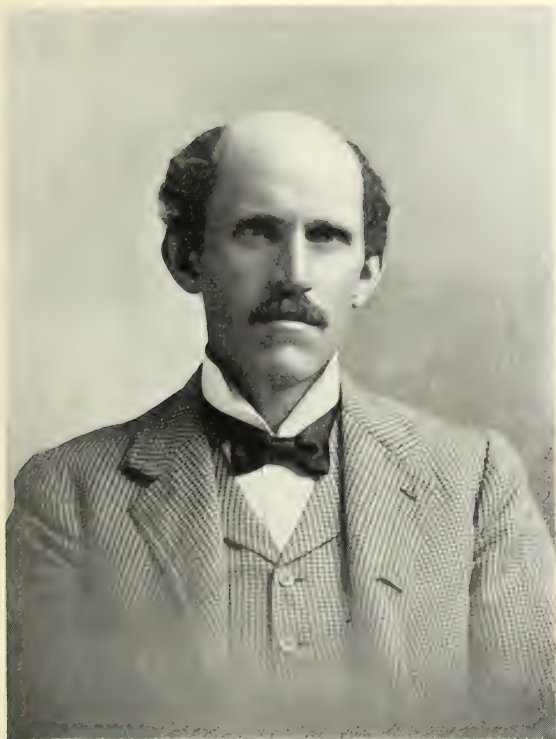
and the following year he held a similar position in Mendon, Mass. In the fall of 1890, he assumed the principalship of Coe's Northwood academy, in which position he spent four prosperous years. In the fall of 1894, he accepted the chair of English and rhetoric at the Pennsylvania State college, which position he still holds. He spent the summer of 1897 in a bicycle tour of England and Scotland. In the summer of 1901, he edited reading courses in the Booklovers' Library, Philadelphia, and in the college year 1901-2, he was granted a leave of absence of eight months, a greater part of which time he devoted to the study of English and German philology, at the University of Gottingen, Germany.

Prof. Pattee's first poem, *The Solitary Pine*, was published in *The Granite Monthly* of April, 1883. Other early contributions were made to *The Youth's Companion*, the *Springfield Republican*, the *Boston Journal*, and other periodicals. His first publication in book form was a monograph on *Literature in the Public Schools*, published in Cincinnati in 1891. *The Wine of May, and other Lyrics*, published by the Republican Press Association, Concord, in 1893, reveals a deep love of nature, a characteristic that again appears in *Pasquaney Echoes*, a volume of mingled prose and poetry published in 1893 by the Enterprise Printing House, Bristol. Most of this volume was written at his summer cottage, "Ledgeside," on the shore of Pasquaney, or Newfound, lake, and its pages contain exquisite pen-pictures of this lake and its romantic surroundings.

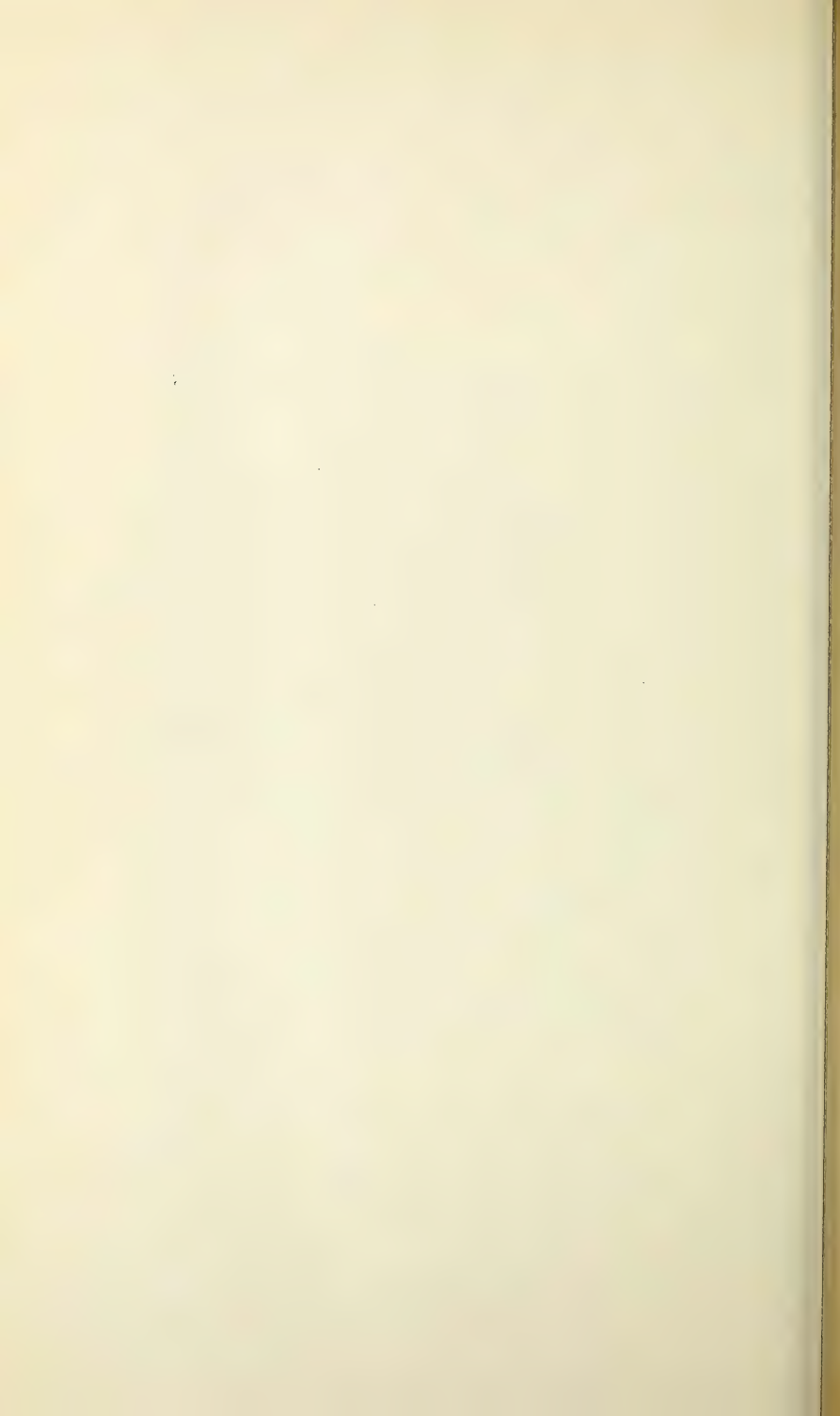
In 1896, Silver, Burdett, & Co., of Boston, published Prof. Pattee's *A History of American Literature, with a View to the Fundamental Principles Underlying Its Development*, an exhaustive text-book of 500 pages, designed for schools and colleges. This book was received with great favor by critics and educators, and reached its third edition within six months. About this time, Prof. Pattee was chosen to write an addition to John Nichol's article on American literature in *The Encyclopedia Britannica*, and to contribute an article on the history of Canadian literature. In 1897, he published *Reading Courses in American Literature*. Other works are: *A Study of Shakespeare's Macbeth* (1897); *The Foundations of English Literature* (1899); and *Mary Garvin* (1902). An edition of the *Poems of Philip Freneau* is now being published by the Princeton Historical association in three volumes.

Prof. Pattee's latest book, *Mary Garvin*, published by Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., New York, has met with very favorable criticism. It is a pleasing rural story in a picturesque setting. The story is not a reflection of other rural stories, but a new and vigorous use of material which has long lain dormant. Unusual interest in the book is shown in this vicinity, since the author localizes the story, and many of the places and several of





PROF. FRED LEWIS PATTEE, A. M.



the characters are easily recognized. Prof. Pattee dedicates the book to his parents, "with memories of a happy boyhood."

Noble character and the inspirations of nature are Prof. Pattee's priceless inheritance. He comes of good old Puritan stock, and his youth and young manhood were spent among the uplifting scenes and healthful surroundings of the hills and mountains. Small wonder, then, that he is a writer of prominence and a poet of noble achievement and of still further possibility. He has received a local preacher's license from the Methodist church at Bristol.

Of the following poems from Prof. Pattee's pen, the first and third are from *Pasquaney Echoes*; the second and fourth, from *The Wine of May, and other Lyrics*.

## BURNS HILL,

There is a legend old,  
 By aged grandsires told  
 On winter nights when fire and lamp are dim,  
 That years and years ago,  
 Ere had been struck a blow  
 Within the woods about Pasquaney's brim,  
 A hardy little band  
 Sought out this forest land  
 From Londonderry, in the month of June,  
 And slowly day by day  
 Toiled o'er the tangled way,  
 By babbling streams and meadows blossom strewn ;  
 And just as evening fell,—  
 I've heard my grandsire tell, —  
 They came one day upon this little hill ;  
 The purple western skies  
 Had tints of Paradise  
 That filled with mellow light the valleys still.  
 The towering mountains grand  
 Arose on every hand,  
 Beneath their feet, asleep, Pasquaney lay ;  
 And to the little band  
 The place seemed fairyland,  
 And one, a maiden weary of the way,  
 Desired, if she should die,  
 In this sweet spot to lie  
 In blissful rest, above the sleepy wave ;  
 And ere fell winter's snows,  
 Ere faded summer's rose,  
 With loving hands they made her here her grave.  
 The years have flown since then,  
 The busy hands of men  
 Have torn the woods and fettered all the streams ;  
 Yet still in the sunset's glow  
 The lake smiles from below,  
 And in the west the mountain monarch gleams.  
 The churchyard now is old ;  
 Its sacred bounds now hold

The dust of all that little band of yore ;  
 Its stones are black with moss,  
 The tangled bushes cross  
 Above the maiden's grave and block the door.  
 Yet in this northern land  
 Amid these mountains grand,  
 I know no spot more beautiful, more bright ;  
 No spot more fit to keep  
 The dead in their long sleep  
 'Till Resurrection morn shall banish night.

## JULY

The quivering air is filled with heat ;  
 All is silent as a dream,  
 Save the murmur of a stream,  
 Save the locust's far-off scream,  
 And drowsy crickets at my feet.  
 Oh, lead me to some leafy glen  
 Where the morning dew yet clings,  
 Where the matin bird yet sings,  
 And each cooling zephyr brings  
 The odors of the mossy fen !  
 What fitter task, then, could there be,  
 On this drowsy summer day,  
 From all trouble far away,  
 Than to list the wood-bird's lay,  
 And dream, my love, and dream of thee ?

## THE VOICE ON THE MOUNTAIN

O'er the waters of Pasquaney,  
 On the mountain ragged, thorny,  
 Wild and rising from the waters, rising sheer,  
 Dwells an imp or nymph or woman  
 With a mellow voice quite human,  
 Never failing, never ceasing, sweet to hear,  
 Joining in my songs of gladness,  
 Sighing in my hours of sadness,  
 Sighing, laughing, never far and never near.  
 "Ah me ! Ha, ha ! Ah woe !"  
 Comes the voice or high or low,  
 "Ah me ! Ha, ha ! Ah woe."

For her story I beseech her,  
 "Art thou, then, some wayward creature,  
 Half a maiden, half a fairy, sad and lone,  
 Longing for the love of mortal,  
 Yet debarred from that blest portal,  
 Longing, pining till thou hast but voice alone ?  
 Or the ghost of dusky maiden  
 Lingering there with sorrow laden,  
 Grieving, sighing for the happy days long flown ?  
 Alas ! Alas ! To know !"  
 Came an answer sad and low,  
 "A lass ? A lass ? O, no."

Wilt thou drive me quite to madness ?  
 Thou art then the imp of sadness.  
 Oft the world seems black and lonely, and forlorn,



And I cry, "Life is a shadow  
 Like the fog upon the meadow,  
 Life the flashing, flimsy dew-web of the morn;  
 Youth is but a time for sighing,  
 Age is but a time for dying,  
 All between a paltry bubble quickly torn;—  
     Our life is pain! Ah woe!"  
     Came the far voice, soft and low,  
     "Your life is pain? Ah, no."

Ah, I hail the nymph of gladness,  
 In thy voice no trace of sadness;—  
 Sometimes of a summer morning all is bright,  
 And I cry, "Oh, life is sweetness;  
 Earth has given in completeness  
 Heavenly sounds and fragrant perfumes, and our sight  
 Has regaled with floods of beauty,  
 Till it seems our only duty  
 Just to praise God for the sweetness and the light,  
     My life's all joy, I know!"  
     Came the voice no longer low,  
     "Thy life's all joy? Ah, no!"

"What, then, art thou, wayward creature,  
 Thou who hast not sense or feature,  
 Save a voice that sympathizes with my soul?  
 If not imp or nymph or maiden,  
 If not shade with sadness laden,  
 Why dost enter every mood, oh why condole  
 When my heart with grief is breaking,  
 Laugh when joy has stopped its aching!  
 I would know thee, love thee, seek thee and console;—  
     A voice? Oh more, I know!"  
     Came the whisper sighing low,  
     "A voice,—no more, Ah no!"

#### THE PICKET'S SONG

Softly, comrades, they are sleeping,—  
 Since the morning, oh how long has been the way!  
 Gone the days when war was calling,  
 Gone the crash of arms appalling,  
 And the bivouac and the marching and the fray,  
 And the army now is sleeping:  
 We are but the pickets, keeping  
 Ward and watch before the camp till break of day.

Softly, comrades, they are sleeping,—  
 They the muscle of the North, the Nation's stay.  
 Some when shell and death were flying  
 In the Southland we left lying,—  
 They were sleeping when their comrades marched away.  
 Now the Northern ranks are sleeping:  
 We, the few, are pickets, keeping  
 Watch and ward until the breaking of the day.

Softly, comrades, they are sleeping,  
 And we watch them while the slow years steal away,  
 One by one to rest we're going,  
 For our eyes are heavy growing;—  
 There is silence o'er the campground erst so gay;  
 For the Northern ranks are sleeping:  
 We are but the pickets, keeping  
 Watch and ward until the breaking of the day.

## CHAPTER XXIX

### LIBRARIES

Let knowledge grow from more to more,  
But more of reverence in us dwell;  
That mind and soul, according well,  
May make one music as before,  
But vaster.

—*Tennyson.*

Dec. 10, 1800, the Social Library of New Chester was incorporated by the legislature, with Carr Huse, Esq., Ephraim Webster, Sethus Forbes, Jacob Rowell, Edward Blodgett, and Reuben Wells, Jr., incorporators. It was located in what is now Hill village. It was authorized to hold books and other personal property to the value of \$1,000. A library was incorporated in that part of Bridgewater now Bristol village June 16, 1802, with Moses Lewis, Peter Sleeper, Moses Sleeper, Ahimaas Blanchard incorporators, under the name of the Bridgewater Social Library. This association was authorized to make purchases or receive subscriptions, grants and donations, not exceeding \$1,000. The library at New Chester was evidently established and had an existence of many years, but there is no evidence to show that a library at Bridgewater village was ever opened under the charter named. The supposition would be that it was not from the fact that another charter of the same name was granted to men living in another part of the town June 15, 1811, the incorporators being Thomas Crawford, Benj. Boardman, and Enoch Melvin. These men all lived on Bridgewater hill, and the library was located in that part of the town.

July 2, 1823, the Bristol Library was incorporated with James Minot, Moses W. Sleeper, and their associates as incorporators. By its charter this library had "all the powers and privileges necessary and incident to corporations of a similar nature." This association had a prosperous existence of twenty-five or thirty years. It was supported by a small fee for the use of the books and by money earned by the young people at sociables, braiding straw hats, and in other ways. Solomon Cavis was librarian at one time and the library was located in his store. At a later date, Col. Oscar F. Fowler filled this office and the books were kept in the small lobby of the post-office. This library had on its shelves one hundred volumes or more of the standard works of the day, mainly histories and biographies,

with a few works of fiction. In the late forties, or early fifties, interest in it declined, and the book-case stood for years unopened.

At the annual town meeting in 1868, through the efforts of Dr. Daniel S. Chase, the town appropriated seventy-five dollars for books to form the nucleus of a public library, and the next year one hundred dollars was appropriated for additional books. These books were kept in a private residence or on the counters of E. S. Foster's drug store, and necessarily in such a way that patrons helped themselves, and some volumes were lost. The result was that, in 1872, the town voted to sell the books at auction, and this was done, the sale amounting to \$35.60.

#### MINOT-SLEEPER LIBRARY

On the 22nd of November, 1883, Judge Josiah Minot, of Concord, and Col. Solomon Sias Sleeper, of Cambridge, Mass., both natives of Bristol, addressed the following letter to the selectmen of Bristol:

Concord, N. H., Nov. 22, 1883.

Selectmen of Bristol.

Dear Sirs:—We wish to make some appropriate gift to the town of Bristol, in token of our regard for it as our native town, and of the many pleasant memories and associations that still attach us to it, on account of its having been the place of our homes in the earlier years of our lives. For that purpose we have purchased of F. Bartlett, Esq., the lot of land on the southerly side of Pleasant street, opposite his dwelling house. And we propose to erect on it a suitable building for a public library, and when completed to convey the property to the town for that use. We intend that the building, with the grounds connected, shall be of such design and in such condition, that they will be a credit to the place; and we hope that the library, when established, will be useful and beneficial to the community.

Please advise us if, in your opinion, such a gift would be acceptable to the town, and if it will assume to make suitable provisions for the establishment of a public library as contemplated and for the future maintenance and management of it accordingly.

Respectfully,

Josiah Minot,  
S. S. Sleeper.

This letter was enclosed in one to Hon. Cyrus Taylor which read as follows:

Concord, N. H., Nov. 22, 1883.

Hon. Cyrus Taylor.

Dear Sir:—We enclose a letter from us to the selectmen of Bristol in relation to a public library there, which please hand to them. Our proposal in that letter, if acceptable to the town, will ensure the early completion of the building for the library ready for use accordingly.

But the important part of providing suitable books for the library itself still remains. And although the town may not hesitate to assume the obligation of such provision, yet there might be more delay than is desirable. It seems to us that the acceptability and success of the enterprise will be

greatly encouraged and promoted if provision can be made for the supply for a suitable number of volumes for the commencement of the use of the library by the public on the completion of the building ready for it. And for that purpose, as well as of creating a more effective public interest in the matter, a voluntary contribution by the citizens will be very useful and advantageous. Not a very large sum, say \$2,500, will make a good commencement, and, to encourage it, if \$1,500 of that amount is contributed by the citizens, we will be responsible for the remaining \$1,000, and thus an early and favorable establishment of the library will be made.

Please confer with the citizens and ascertain what can be done in the direction suggested, and advise us.

Yours truly,

Josiah Minot,  
S. S. Sleeper.

A meeting of the citizens of Bristol was held at the town hall, Friday, Dec. 14, to consider these propositions. Hon. L. W. Fling presided. A committee was elected consisting of Rev. H. G. Pillsbury, Capt. R. W. Musgrove, Dr. J. M. Bishop, Dr. Geo. H. Calley, and Ira A. Chase, Esq., to appoint a canvassing committee to raise the \$1,500 needed from the people of Bristol in order to secure the \$1,000 offered by Messrs. Minot and Sleeper.

At a special town meeting held Jan. 16, 1884, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Hon. Josiah Minot, of Concord, N. H., and Hon. S. S. Sleeper, of Cambridge, Mass., former residents of Bristol, have generously offered to donate to the town a library building and grounds, provided the town will accept the same and provide for the maintenance thereof, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, by the inhabitants of Bristol, qualified to vote in town affairs, in town meeting assembled, on the 16th day of January, 1884, that the town thanks the donors for their interest in the welfare of Bristol, and for their munificence and public spiritedness, that it will accept said gift of said library buildings and grounds, and hereby agrees to provide for the maintenance and management thereof. Be it further

*Resolved*, That the clerk of said town forward, as soon as may be, a copy of this resolution to said donors respectively.

The committee to appoint solicitors named Hon. Cyrus Taylor, Hon. B. F. Perkins, W. A. Berry, Esq., Selectman S. S. Brown, and H. T. Alexander. This committee made an appeal to the people of Bristol through the columns of the local paper in its issue of Feb. 14, 1884, for a generous contribution. Mrs. Laura A. Buttrick was afterward added to this committee, and this lady and Hon. Cyrus Taylor secured contributions amounting to \$800. As this amount was all that could be raised by subscription, Messrs. Minot and Sleeper paid over the full amount of their subscription — \$1,000.

The library building was completed the middle of December, 1884, and about the same time the selectmen appointed the following as a board of trustees: Hon. Cyrus Taylor, William A. Berry, Esq., Rev. H. G. Pillsbury, Dr. G. H. Calley, I. A. Chase, Esq., Capt. R. W. Musgrove, J. H. Brown, Esq., M.



W. White, Dr. J. M. Bishop, Capt. F. A. Gordon, and R. A. Horner, Esq. The trustees organized Dec. 20, by the election of Capt. Musgrove as chairman, Dr. Bishop as secretary, and Dr. Calley as treasurer.

The trustees elected the following as a committee to select the first installment of books to be purchased: Rev. H. G. Pillsbury, Ira A. Chase, Esq., Rev. J. A. Bowler, Dr. G. H. Calley, Rev. G. O. Wiggin, Mrs. Laura A. Berry, Mrs. Laura A. Buttrick, and Misses M. Abbie Bishop, Nancy A. Durgin, Mary E. Bartlett, E. Belle Calley, and Mattie B. Calley. This committee selected the first 600 volumes placed in the library, and Rev. Mr. Pillsbury went to Boston and made the purchase.

The library was opened to the public Feb. 28, 1885. There were then on the shelves for circulation 400 volumes, and 500 more awaited covering and labeling. These books consisted of a good proportion of fiction, histories, biographies, travels, and miscellaneous works. In September, following, Miss Abigail Minot presented the library with \$227 for the purchase of encyclopedias, atlases, etc.

At the first annual meeting of the trustees, held Mar. 10, 1886, the treasurer reported the total receipts of the year to have been \$2,053.16; total expenditures, \$1,940.10; leaving a balance on hand of \$113.06. The librarian reported 1,300 books on the shelves; number of patrons of the library, 482; number of books issued, 8,021. The cost to the town this year for the services of librarian, janitor, and incidental expenses was \$214.70.

In 1886 and 1887, the town made no appropriation for the purchase of new books, but paid the running expenses of the library as they occurred. In March, 1888, the town appropriated fifty dollars for books.

In October, 1888, Messrs. Minot and Sleeper proposed, if the town would annually raise \$225 for the purchase of books, to pay into the town treasury each year one-half of this amount, or deposit with the treasurer \$2,500, the interest from which was expected to provide one-half of the \$225. This offer was accepted by the town at the November election in 1888, and a vote of thanks was extended these gentlemen for their generosity. These gentlemen paid their half of the \$225 each year till 1891, when they sent their check for \$2,500, as promised.

When this proposition was made, it was supposed that \$2,500 would yield at least \$112.50 interest annually, but about the time the money was paid, the rate of interest declined, and the savings banks paid only three per cent. It was decided, however, by the selectmen, that the town was holden to pay \$225 to the library for books each year, notwithstanding one-half of this amount was not derived as interest from the funds deposited, and the town has paid this amount each year without a murmur.

Nov. 6, 1891, Col. S. S. Sleeper, at an informal meeting at the library building, presented to the trustees portraits of himself and Judge Minot, which now occupy prominent places in the building. The gift was accepted by the chairman of the trustees, R. W. Musgrove. Remarks were also made by ex-Gov. N. S. Berry, William A. Berry, Esq., and Ira A. Chase, Esq.

In 1899, two valuable gifts were made to the library. The late Mr. and Mrs. David L. Davis, of Enfield, left a legacy of \$200 for the nucleus of a library at the Dodge-Davis Manufacturing company's mill. The officers of this company thought the intentions of the donors could be best carried out by presenting this sum to the Minot-Sleeper library. This was done and the trustees expended the money in the purchase of historical and scientific books in accordance with the known desires of the donors.

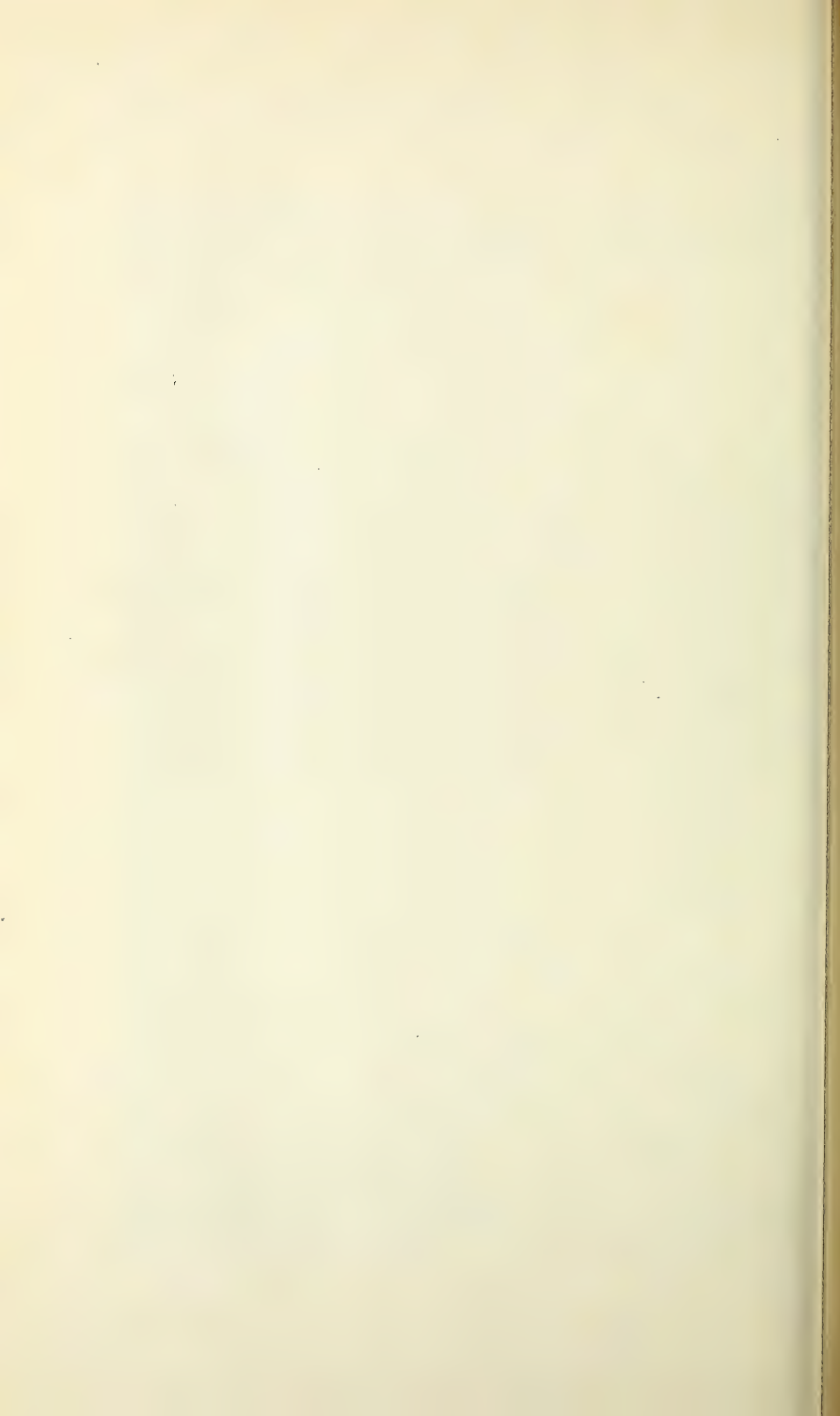
The other gift was from Charles L. Jackman, Esq., of Concord, who presented the library with fifteen shares of the stock of the Capital Fire Insurance Company of Concord, of the par value of \$1,500. This was to constitute a fund to be known as the Minnie Maria Day-Jackman fund and was given to perpetuate the memory of his deceased wife, a daughter of Charles H. Day, Esq., and a native of Bristol. The condition of this gift was that the income should be used in the purchase of magazines, papers, and other periodicals, for a reading room, the public to have access to them at least two evenings each week between the hours of 6 and 9 o'clock. By reason of this gift the directors set apart a portion of the floor space of the library for a reading room, and the age limit at which children were admitted to the privileges of the library was changed from thirteen to eleven years. The first dividend on this stock was received by the treasurer in November, 1899, and the reading room was opened Jan. 1, following. This room has been from the first liberally patronized, especially by the young, who are thus brought into contact with the best literature of the day, and its beneficial effects are beyond compute.

In 1902, Mrs. Ruth F. Pray presented the town with a valuable collection of stuffed birds, both native and foreign, about two hundred in number. At the election in November, 1902, the town voted to accept the gift and appropriated \$100 for suitable cases in which to preserve the specimens, and they now adorn the walls of the library.

The library was opened from 3 to 5 and from 6 to 8 o'clock on the afternoons of Wednesday and Saturday of each week till Dec. 20, 1887. From this date it was opened on Saturdays only from 1:30 to 5 p. m., and from 6 to 8 p. m. till the opening of the reading room. Since then the hours have been from 1 till 5 p. m. and from 6 till 9 p. m. Saturdays and from 6 till 9 p. m. Wednesdays.



MINOT-SLEEPER LIBRARY





The average annual cost to the town for books and current expenses has been \$465, in addition to the income from the Minot-Sleeper and the Minnie Maria Day-Jackman funds.

The annual report of the directors, made to the town in March, 1902, gave the following statistics:

Number of books in circulation Feb. 3, 1902	4,186
Reference books	1,364

Total	5,550
Number of patrons of the library	732
Average number of books issued each day library was open	175

During the seventeen years the library has been open, not a book has been lost.

The first board of trustees consisted of eleven persons. In 1886, three were appointed for one year, three for two years, and three for three years. Since then, three have been appointed each year for three years. The following have served as trustees, the date at the left of the name indicating the year first appointed; that at the right showing termination of service:

1884 Hon. Cyrus Taylor	1898	1884 Gen. John H. Brown	1895
Wm. A. Berry, Esq.	1891	Capt. F. A. Gordon	1887
Rev. H. G. Pillsbury	1887	1887 Hon. B. F. Perkins <sup>1</sup>	
Dr. G. H. Calley <sup>1</sup>		1891 Green L. Tilton	1901
Hon. Ira A. Chase <sup>1</sup>		Dr. Channing Bishop <sup>1</sup>	
Capt. R. W. Musgrove <sup>1</sup>		1895 Orlando B. French	1902
Dr. J. M. Bishop	1891	1898 Charles W. Fling <sup>1</sup>	
M. W. White <sup>1</sup>		1901 Henry C. Whipple <sup>1</sup>	
R. A. Horner, Esq.	1889		

R. W. Musgrove has served as chairman and Dr. Geo. H. Calley as treasurer of the board of trustees from its organization in 1884. Dr. J. M. Bishop served as secretary till his death in 1891, when he was succeeded by his son, Dr. Channing Bishop, who still holds the office.

Hon. Ira A. Chase and Dr. Calley have served on the executive committee from 1886 till now, and Hon. B. F. Perkins served from 1888 till 1901, when he was succeeded by M. W. White. Mr. Chase, as chairman, has had the immediate charge of the library and has purchased most of the books added to its shelves during his term of office.

Miss Maude Gordon served as librarian from the opening of the library till Dec. 19, 1887, when she resigned. She was succeeded by Miss Maud Heath, who resigned Sept. 21, 1891. Mrs. Ella Evans then filled the office for four months, when she resigned. Miss Emma P. Berry was then elected and still retains the office.

<sup>1</sup> Still serving.

## CHAPTER XXX

### NEWFOUND LAKE AND RIVER AND THE PEMI- GEWASSET

Till death the tide of thought may stem,  
There's little chance of our forgetting  
The highland lake, the water gem,  
With all its rugged mountain-setting.  
—*Milnes.*

#### NEWFOUND LAKE

That all the chief lakes and streams in this state were known to the aborigines by distinct names does not admit of a doubt. This was not only true, but these names were musical and full of meaning. It is a matter of much regret that the Indian nomenclature is not more generally known, and that the Indian name of our beautiful lake is wrapped in uncertainty. The most that can be stated concerning it is that an uncertain tradition says the Indians called it "Pasquaney," "the place where birch-bark for canoes is found." After having searched for years to substantiate this tradition without avail, the author of this history ventured to use this name in the columns of the *Bristol Enterprise*. Soon after, Prof. Fred Lewis Pattee wrote of the lake in verse as Pasquaney, and the name at once became popular with many, while others mourned this departure with keen regrets. The early maps of New Hampshire give no light on this subject. On the "New and Accurate Map of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, and New England," published by Emanuel Bowen in London in 1752, this lake is shown but no name is given. A map engraved by Thomas Jefferys in London, in November, 1755, entitled "Map of the Most Inhabited Parts of New England," gives the lake but no name. In 1761, a map was published at Portsmouth by Blanchard & Langdon, called the "Accurate Map of his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire." In this map New Chester appears, but Newfound lake and river are unnamed; Smith's river has the same name as now.

This lake evidently had no fixed name when first known to the whites. It was called Baker's pond, Newfound pond, and New Chester pond. In 1751, Jonathan Farwell and John Kendall assisted in running the curved line marking the westerly

bound of the lands of the Masonian proprietors. In their report they speak of coming to the west shore of Newfound or Baker's pond. As late as 1791, Jeremy Belknap, in his "History of New Hampshire" calls the lake "New Chester pond." The first reference to the lake in the records of the New Chester proprietors was in May, 1766, when it was called New Found pond. It was thus known to the first settlers, and this name has continued till now, except that it is now never spoken of as a pond, but as Newfound lake.

The origin of the name "Newfound" is uncertain. Some of the old people, seventy-five years ago, used to tell of a party traveling through this section, coming unexpectedly to this sheet of water and calling it "Newfound." Rev. Ebenezer Fisk, born in 1802, said that when a boy he heard from the old people of that day that these discoverers were hunters from the lower part of this state or Massachusetts, who had been hunting on Moosilauke, and were returning home on the east side of the Pemigewasset river. When opposite the mouth of Newfound river, they were impressed by the gorgeousness of the falls, for the river was at flood tide, and resolved to explore the stream. They crossed the Pemigewasset and soon came to the lake, which they called "Newfound pond." Any explanation is better than none, and any name is better than none, so we assume the above to be authentic, and here record our gratitude that the lake was given a name, though a poor one.

The water of this lake is exceptionally pure. It is fed not only by the waters of the Cackermouth river on the north and Fowler's river on the west, and by numerous brooks, but by many springs in the lake.

This lake has always been noted for the vast numbers of lake trout of great size. In the fall of the year thousands of these fish congregate on the spawning beds near the shore, and are then comparatively tame and easily speared. The early settlers caught these fish to some extent through the ice, and in the fall speared large numbers on the spawning beds and salted them for winter use. Spearing was continued every year till the discovery was made that these fine fish could be taken by trolling. The description of the vast numbers on the spawning beds, as published in the local paper, caught the eye of Maj. E. E. Bedee, an experienced fisherman, and he tried trolling in the spring of 1886. He was eminently successful, and there was in consequence great excitement among fishermen. This was the commencement of trolling fishing here, and Newfound lake has since become one of the best fishing resorts in the state or in New England. As many as 400 pounds have been taken from the lake in one day. It is seldom that a trout is taken by trolling that weighs less than five pounds, while the larger number weigh from eight to fifteen pounds. In May, 1895, Frank G.

W. Cross, a boy of sixteen, caught one by trolling that weighed twenty pounds, and in February, 1901, Albert F. Cate caught one through the ice that tipped the scales at exactly twenty-five pounds. The interests of fishermen has entirely stopped the practice of spearing.

About thirty years ago, a quantity of the fry of the landlocked salmon was placed in the Cockermouth river by the fish and game commissioners, and additions have been made several times since, one in 1880. These fish, thus planted, have largely multiplied, till now nearly as many landlocked salmon are taken in the spring as of the lake trout, though they do not average as large. Some have been caught that weighed thirteen pounds. In 1890, 15,000 landlocked salmon fry were placed in Fowler's river, and in 1898 the commissioners placed in the lake 40,000 fry of Lake Superior white fish.

The ease with which the trout could be dipped from the spawning beds and stripped of the spawn caused the state, in 1889, to erect a fish hatching house here. It was located on the west bank of Newfound river, a few rods below the stone dam at the outlet of the lake. This house was 20 x 34 feet and had a capacity for 750,000 eggs, and was first filled in November, 1889. In 1895, the legislature appropriated \$2,000 for a larger house, and one was constructed, in 1897, on the Tilton brook, within the limits of Bridgewater. It was stocked, the first year, with 1,000,000 eggs of the lake trout, and 65,000 eggs of the landlocked salmon, all taken from this lake, and 125,000 eggs of the brook trout. J. Rendall Sleeper has had charge of both of these houses. The eggs are hatched during the winter, and in the early spring are placed in the waters of the lake, or in other bodies of water in this state.

It was apparent from year to year that large numbers of the trout went down Newfound river, and were thus lost to the lake. Accordingly, in 1895, Francis W. Calley raised \$400, chiefly among the citizens of Bristol, and constructed a screen at the outlet of the lake which has since effectively prevented this waste.

This lake also contains cusk, which are seldom taken except through the ice, pickerel, perch, chub, pout, eels, and other fish of less value. Smelt were planted here some twenty years ago by the fish and game commissioners as a food for the trout and salmon, and there are now vast numbers in the lake.

This lake usually freezes over, in the main part, from the first to the eighth of January, and generally opens from the 15th to 25th of April. In 1882, the lake closed on the night of Dec. 20, and in 1886 not till Jan. 10. In 1902, the ice went out April 10; in 1889, not till May 12.

The first steamboat for passengers was put on the lake in June, 1865, by Capt. George W. Dow. This was appropriately





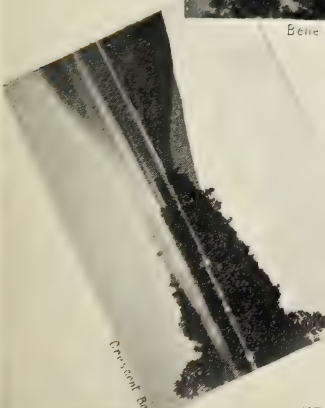
North from Crescent Bay



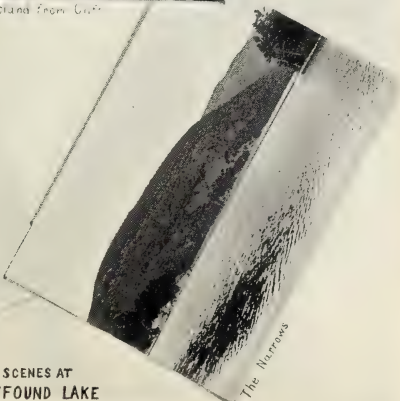
Sugar Hill and Mt. Jackson



Belle Island from Gulf

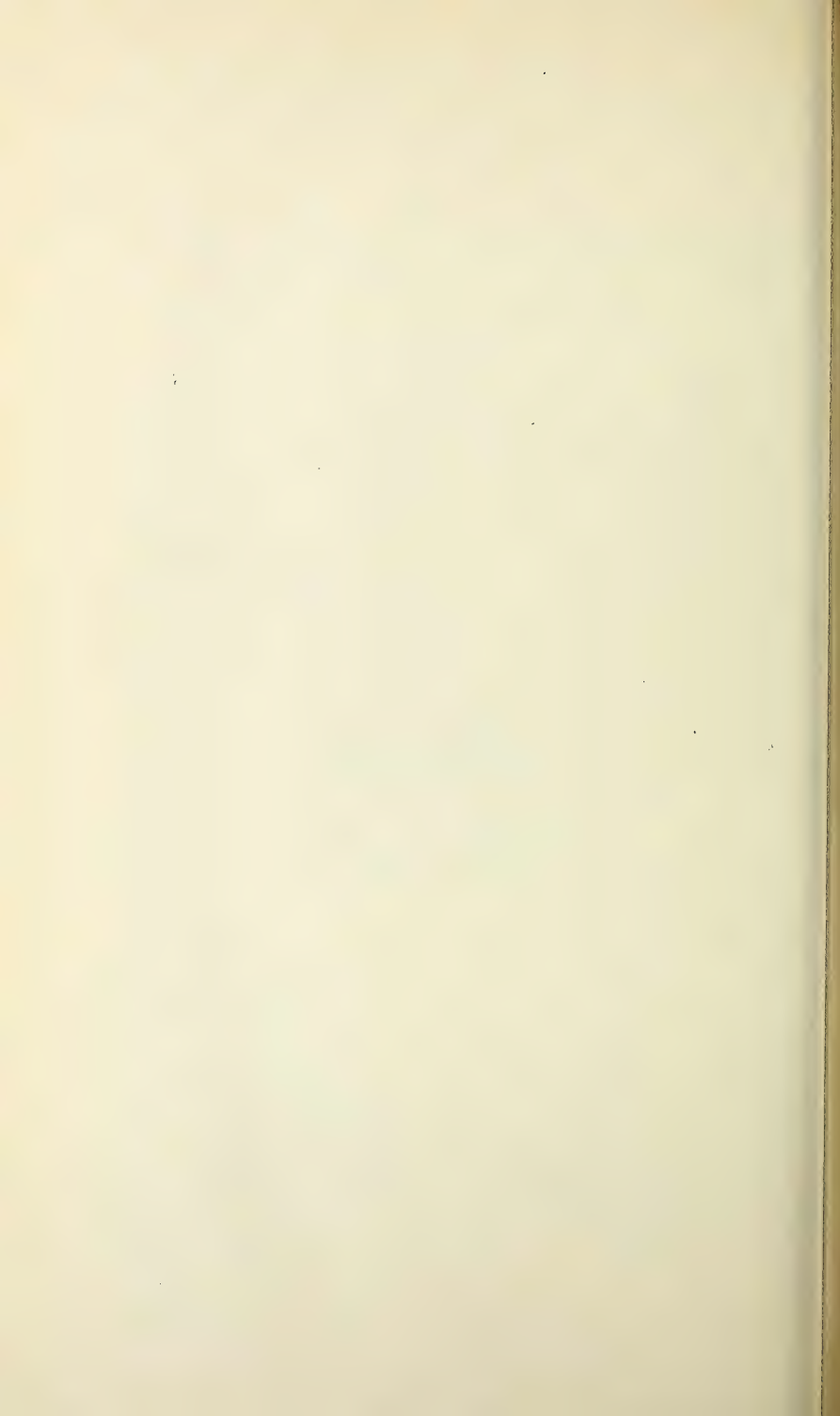


Crescent Bay



The Narrows

SCENES AT  
NEWFOUND LAKE



called the "Pioneer," but its service was brief, being destroyed by fire a few months later. In June, 1883, the steamer "Lady Helen" was placed on its waters. This was twenty-eight feet long and eight foot beam, cost \$2,300, and had a capacity for fifty passengers. July 20, following, this boat, like the first, came to an untimely end by fire.

In the summer of 1878, Edward M. Drake placed on the lake the steamer "Cardigan." This boat was 56 feet in length and 21 foot beam. It was used till the summer of 1883. There are now plying its waters, for the accommodation of the public, the "Stella Marion," a steamboat 50 feet long and 10 foot beam, built, owned, and operated by Ambrose S. Adams, and two small boats, Pioneer and Salmo, owned and operated by Samuel Hentall, while numerous first-class yachts owned by private parties are also found upon its waters.

Newfound lake is not surpassed by any body of water in the state for the beauty of its setting, its sandy beaches, wooded shores, and fine fishing, and thousands resort to its shores every season for rest and recreation, fishing and hunting. Numerous cottages and boarding-houses dot its shores. In 1895, Dr. E. S. Wilson, of New York, opened Camp Pasquaney, a summer school for boys, on the east shore of the lake in Hebron. In 1900, Mrs. Catherine F. Holt opened a school for young ladies in the same vicinity. Both of these schools have proved successful, and another school for boys is projected.

#### NEWFOUND RIVER

Before man utilized the water of Newfound river for manufacturing purposes, there were three channels to the stream from where Charles W. Holmes's machine shop now is to the Pemigewasset river, making two islands. The south branch was very much as it would be now unobstructed by dams. The north branch flowed where the planing mill of B. L. & A. Wells now is, and from there passed the site of the pulp-mill of the Train-Smith company to the Pemigewasset. The middle channel commenced at Holmes's shop, and its water furnished the power for the first building on Water street, first used as a plant for grinding black lead, now for a blacksmith shop. It also furnished power for the bedstead shop on the east side of Water street, and below here it fell into a deep gorge that has since been filled with the accumulation of years.

About 1865, a canal was cut from the pulp-mill privilege spoken of above to the south channel to convey the waste water to what is now the pulp-mill of the Mason-Perkins Paper company, near the railroad station. In 1888, this canal was enlarged, and farther up the stream a dam was constructed across the south channel and a canal was cut from this dam to the

north channel for the purpose of carrying all the water in the stream to the pulp-mill of Train-Smith company.

From the outlet of the lake to its junction with the Pemigewasset, a distance of two and one-half miles, the water of the stream has a fall of two hundred and thirty-eight feet. While the water flowed from the lake unobstructed by any dam at the outlet it was no more reliable as a water power than other streams of the state, as the surplus water readily passed off, and in seasons of drought there was but little water in the stream. This was the condition of affairs up to 1848, when a party of capitalists, of Lowell, Mass., who had secured a charter under the name of the Winnepesaukee Lake Cotton and Woolen Manufacturing company, for the purpose of controlling the waters of the lakes that were tributary to the Merrimack river, commenced improvements at the outlet of the lake. This company, commonly known as the Lowell company, purchased the rights of flowage along the river and around the shores of Newfound lake, and erected the large stone dam at the outlet. Its total investments here amounted to \$110,000.

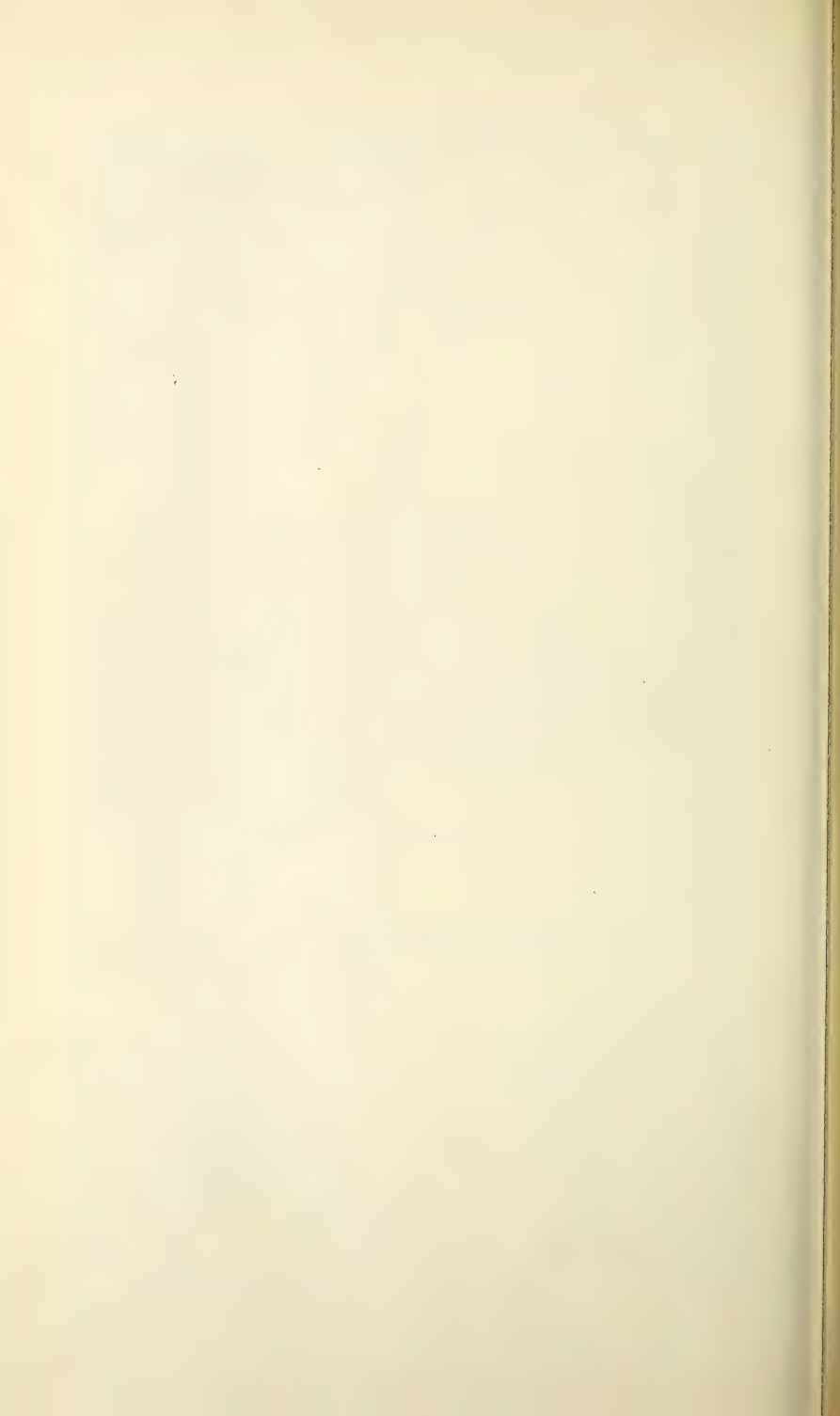
By means of this dam the surplus waters of spring and fall were held in reserve to be drawn on in times of drought to supply the mills at Lawrence, Lowell, and Manchester. This was a vast improvement on the natural order of things; and as long as the usual flow was allowed to continue and the surplus was drawn when most needed at Bristol, as well as at the manufacturing towns on the Merrimack, there was no friction between the mill owners along this stream and the Lowell company. In process of time, however, the Lowell company was less mindful of the rights of the mill owners on Newfound river, and at times did not allow the natural flow of the water. This state of affairs grew worse with each succeeding year, and naturally a water war was the result. Finally, about 1869, the mill owners combined, under the leadership of George T. Crawford, and, as often as less than the natural amount was allowed to run, so often a party of men would proceed to the gate house and forcibly raise the gates. Criminal proceedings were threatened against the mill owners, and most of them in turn brought suits against the Lowell company for damages. A suit brought by Holden & Co., Sept. 19, 1870, was tried in 1871, and the jury awarded \$2,500 damages. The Lowell company never after changed the gates, and there was an uninterrupted flow of water; and all the other suits were dropped.

In addition to this judgment of the court, the introduction of steam as supplementary to water in the manufacturing towns caused the investments of the company at Bristol to diminish in value, and in July, 1884, the company sold to the Bristol Water Power company, all its real estate and rights here for the small sum of \$15,000. The latter company was composed of the mem-





FALLS ON NEWFOUND RIVER, BRISTOL VILLAGE



bers of the firm of the Mason-Perkins Paper company, and Judge Josiah Minot, of Concord, who owned the grist-mill property now owned by Clarence N. Merrill, on Central street; and the flow of water has continued to be managed for the best interests of the business along the stream, making this stream one of the most reliable water powers in the state.

#### THE PEMIGEWASSET RIVER

The Pemigewasset river forms the easterly boundary of Bristol, separating this town from New Hampton. Pemigewasset is an Indian name and means literally "The Crooked-Mountain-Pine-Place," from Pennaquis (crooked) Wadchu (a mountain) Covash (pine) and auke (a place). By contraction it became Penna-chu-ash-auke, and by corruption, Pemigewasset.<sup>1</sup> The nature of its watershed makes this stream subject to rapid rises and great freshets.<sup>2</sup> During a great rain storm the direction of the wind often determines the effect on this river. A wind from the south drives the clouds against the south sides of the Franconia mountains, and they empty their contents over the country drained by the Pemigewasset, and a rapid rise is the consequence. On the other hand, an east wind causes a like rise in the waters of the Saco, by causing the clouds to strike the east side of the White mountains, and thus pour their contents on the country drained by that river.

When saw-mills were first operated at Moore's mills, in 1829, the lumber manufactured there was drawn through Bristol village to the foot of Bristol falls on the New Hampton side of the river, there made into rafts, and taken down river to market. Each raft consisted of two shooks, and each shook contained six cribs, and each crib from 1,000 to 1,500 feet of lumber. Sometimes the rafts were composed of spars or masts. The rafts were nine feet wide only, so as to pass through the canals. At Hooksett the rafts were locked through the Garvin Falls canal, then run to Amoskeag, and locked by those falls, thence to Lowell, and from there through the Middlesex canal to Charlestown.

After a while, it was found that rafts could be run over Bristol falls, and thereafter lumber was made into rafts at the mills. The business of rafting was dangerous in the extreme, especially over Bristol falls, but a plenty of hardy, daring men were found who enjoyed the excitement, and did not shrink from its dangers.

In the early forties commenced the annual drive of logs from the upper waters of the Pemigewasset down the river to the saw-mills at Lowell, Mass. Large numbers of men were kept

<sup>1</sup> Chandler Potter, in *History of Manchester*.

<sup>2</sup> Many of these freshets are noted in the "Annals of the Town."

at work in the woods through the winter felling the timber, and when the spring floods came the logs were run down the stream. These drives sometimes contained twelve million feet or more. A large force of men were also required as rivermen, and their work on the river, with its dangers and excitements, was among the diversions and annual attractions of the year for the people living near the river. The names of Nathaniel Norcross, Fish & Norcross, the Merrimack Lumber company, and Brooks & Tyler, were associated with the business for many years, while Davis & Sargent were the last to engage in this industry. The business ceased only with the stripping of the country of valuable timber at the head waters of the stream. The last drive was in 1897, when Brooks & Tyler sent about 3,000,000 feet to their mills at Lowell. A thrilling incident happened this year. Two men were going down the stream in a boat, and when shooting the rapids at Worthen's rock, the boat struck a rock and was shattered to pieces. One man succeeded in reaching the shore; the other reached a rock in mid-stream. All efforts to rescue him by means of ropes were futile. Finally another boat with five men in it came down the stream, and with much difficulty succeeded in rescuing the man.

#### REMINISCENCES

John Kidder, Maj. Theophilus Sanborn, and "Col." Tom Fuller, three Revolutionary soldiers, were the first white men to go over Bristol falls in a boat. They were crossing from the west to the east side of the river, above the falls. The water was high, they lost control of the boat, and went over the falls, landing safely at Gen. Sanborn's.—Aaron Kidder.

I commenced to run on the river in 1838, when I was eighteen years old. I liked it. The last time I run was in 1853, the season after I came to Bristol village. I was at work in the paper field, when Dea. Morrison of Franklin called and wanted me to run a raft of lumber loaded with shingles. I told him there was a drive of logs in the river at Bristol that would interfere. He replied that the river was cleared at the bridge that morning, so I went. I had my brother, Robert, with me, Calvin Swett, Robert Moore, and others. We came along all right till in sight of Central bridge, when we saw a jam of logs extending almost across the river. There was a narrow channel on the east side and we pulled for that, but were unable to get through. One corner of the raft struck the jam and stove the raft to pieces. Robert went under water, but I happened to be near enough to pull him out, though he came near drowning. The raft was a total loss and I never saw the owner after.—David Mason.

On the afternoon of May 10, 1845, Elkanah Ward, William Sanborn, and I started a raft, consisting of two shoofs of hewn



factory beams forty feet long, from near the mouth of Squam river. Sanborn and I were in front, Ward, the pilot, in the rear. The river was high and we came near being swept from the raft at Squam falls, but passed safely over, and again in passing over the dam at Moore's mills we had a narrow escape. The raft went with such rapidity that when it dipped the water on the lower side of the dam, nearly the whole of it was submerged, but by retreating to the upper end we managed to keep our position on the raft. The river was very high, and we shot along with great rapidity, but a shower overtook us and the rain fell in such torrents that the river at once commenced to rise rapidly, thus increasing the perils of the trip. We passed Fellows's falls successfully, but narrowly escaped being washed from the raft, and as we neared Ayer's island a new danger presented itself. In the middle of the stream, between the island and the Bristol shore, there was a large, high rock, since removed by those interested in running logs down the stream, and on the rock was a large jam of logs, making the current more swift and dangerous on either side. We took the channel past the island where the rock and jam were, and the raft struck the jam with such force that one side, where Ward and I stood, was driven onto the jam, while the side where Sanborn stood was sunk deep into the water. Sanborn was washed off into the stream, and carried under the lower part of the jam. Ward and I sprang upon the jam and we saw Sanborn come to the surface and battle with the current, for he was a good swimmer, but we could not reach him, and he disappeared from view down the river. Darkness soon came on, but by no possibility could we reach the shore, for a raging torrent was on either side; the rain continued to fall and the river to rise, and we expected momentarily, during the night, that the jam would be swept from the rock and we would find a watery grave like our companion. People on the road heard our cries and gathered on the shore, but were powerless to help us, and we could not make each other understood owing to the noise of the river. In the morning Nicholas Dolloff took a boat and went down the east side of the stream, and after several unsuccessful attempts, succeeded in reaching the jam and rescuing us. A long and unsuccessful search was made for the remains of Sanborn; cannon were fired at different points along the river, but all to no purpose. Some fifteen days later they were accidentally discovered at Parker's ledge in Hill by Capt. Moses Sanborn.—O. S. Hall.

I remember the first raft that left Moore's mills. On it were Daniel S. Mason, Nicholas Dolloff, Otis Sanborn, and one or two others. The raft struck Worthen's rock and Daniel S. Mason was thrown into the river, but the boat attached to the raft was taken by two or three of the men, who followed down the stream and picked him up.—David Mason.

## CHAPTER XXXI

### MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Now go and write thy little rhyme,  
As of thine own creating ;  
Thou seest the day is past its prime ;  
I can no longer waste my time ;  
The mills are tired of waiting.

—*Longfellow.*

The site of Train-Smith company's pulp-mill enjoys the distinction of being the first mill privilege utilized for manufacturing purposes in the old town of New Chester.

At a meeting of the proprietors of New Chester, May 19, 1767, it was voted to give Maj. John Tolford Lot No. 61 on Newfound river, and Lot No. 71 on Smith's river, on condition that he should have a grist-mill and saw-mill in operation on Newfound river by the 1st day of November, 1767, and a grist-mill and saw-mill on Smith's river within six years from that date. (See page 38.)

Lot No. 61 extended from near the center of Central square on the north to Prospect street on the south, and from the Pemigewasset river on the east to the Alexandria line on the west, and contained about 108 acres, including all the mill privileges on the falls in Bristol village. If John Tolford did not have a grist-mill and saw-mill in operation on the first day of November, 1767, as stipulated, he must have erected the mills very soon after. In 1769, John Kidder came to New Chester for the purpose of tending this first grist-mill, and Mar. 27, of the same year, the proprietors voted "that Maj. John Tolford should be obliged to tend his grist-mill in New Chester for the proprietors every first Monday in each month for the year and on no other days." At this time, there were only about eight families in the entire territory of New Chester and, therefore, no occasion for the mill to be in operation more than the time specified. The dam to turn the water to this mill was across the north channel of the stream near the upper bridge on Water street. The grist-mill was near the dam and contained two run of stone. The saw-mill was next to the grist-mill on the east.

Maj. John Tolford never resided in town, but he hired the mill carried on, and continued to own Lot No. 61 till Sept. 14, 1780, when he sold the whole of the lot to John Tolford, 3rd, of

Alexandria, later of Danbury, who, in turn, sold to Sherburn Tilton soon after. Sherburn Tilton settled on the east side of South Main street, a few rods south of the bridge, about 1779, and there built a log house. Family traditions say that he built the first grist-mill in town, and that it was located on the south side of the river. This is unquestionably an error. There were no mills on the south side of the river for some years after this property passed into other hands. He owned, without doubt, the first grist-mill in town, and the fact that he lived on the south side of the river, and that the grist-mill was later on that side may be responsible for this tradition.

May 23, 1794, Sherburn Tilton sold Lot No. 61 to Moses Lewis, and Apr. 25, 1797, Mr. Lewis sold to Peter Ingalls two acres of land on the south side of the river, commencing at a certain "brook" (that which used to flow between the late residence of George C. Currier and that of the late David Mason, and entered the river just below the saw-mill) and extended up the river across the highway, including the post-office site. This lot was re-deeded to Mr. Lewis in 1802, and in neither of the deeds conveying this land is there any mention of mills or other buildings thereon.

Oct. 6, 1797, Moses Lewis mortgaged to Jonathan Harris, of Boston, for \$2,355. the whole of Lot 61, with the exception of the two acres mentioned above, and eight acres near the Alexandria line, sold to Peter Sleeper. In this deed the mills on the north side, on the pulp-mill site, are spoken of as a grist-mill and a saw-mill, and they were, without doubt, then used as such.

Mar. 21, 1806, Moses Lewis sold to Samuel Torrey, of Boston, the two acres spoken of on the south side of the river. This property is now described as "two acres beginning at the emptying of a small brook a few rods below the mills," extending up the river on which are a "grist-mill, saw-mill, blacksmith shop, and other buildings." Apr. 17, 1808, William Webster, a deputy sheriff, said, in making a return to the court of an attachment placed on the real estate of Moses Lewis: "I have attached the farm on which the defendant now lives, including buildings and his tannery." Mr. Lewis then lived where is now the Emerson block, at the corner of Central square and Spring street. By this evidence it seems that Moses Lewis erected the mills on the south side of the river between 1802 (when he re-purchased of Peter Ingalls) and 1806 (when he sold to Torrey); and that, at some date between 1797 (when he mortgaged Lot No. 61 to Jonathan Harris) and the date of the attachment (1808), he established the tannery at the pulp-mill privilege. The grist-mill on the south side of the river was first taxed in New Chester in 1807. Samuel Albee carried on the tanning business at the tannery as early as 1810, but he

does not appear to have owned the real estate, as the same year it was taxed to Moses Lewis.

A writ of ejectment was issued to Jonathan Harris by the court in October, 1808, for the possession of enough of the real estate of Moses Lewis to satisfy his claim, and Mr. Harris sold his interest in August, 1810, to Thomas W. Thompson, of Concord, for \$3,845. Jonathan Howard, of Boston, was also granted a judgment of \$4,103 against Lewis, and a part of the real estate was set off to satisfy this claim. Thomas W. Thompson purchased Howard's claim and the remaining rights of Mr. Lewis, if any, and thus became the sole owner of the Lewis property. Nov. 13, 1817, Mr. Thompson leased the tannery, with the land and water privilege connected, to Jonathan Howard for 994 years for the annual rental of a single kernal of corn, payable on the 15th day of June, annually. May 3, 1820, Mr. Howard sold the tannery property to Nathaniel S. Berry for \$800. It seems probable that the tannery had remained idle from the time Albee retired in 1810, or a little later, till its purchase by Mr. Berry. Mr. Berry's purchase included the tan yard, with twenty-four pits, and the privilege and land connected. The land embraced Spring street and the house where now stands the residence of Clarence N. Merrill. At this time there was no road where is now Central street, simply a "path" to the tannery from Central square; and Spring street was a lane which terminated at the house referred to, which became the residence of Mr. Berry.

Soon after Mr. Berry purchased, he erected a building for a bark-mill, 24 x 30 feet, two stories, and the next year built a curry shop on the upper side of the path, where is now a two-story dwelling. Seven years later, he erected a tannery building,<sup>1</sup> 40 x 80 feet, to tan with hot liquors, on the "New York plan," as it was then called. Mr. Berry traveled to Windham, N. Y., by stage, to get the model for his tannery building and the new process, and he always claimed that his tannery was the first in New England to use this process. By the old method of tanning with cold liquor it required a year to tan hides, while the new process required only one or two months. In building this tannery, thirty-five gallons of rum and five or six barrels of cider were used. In November, following, when putting in the first pack of hides, the proprietor proposed that all agree that no more intoxicating liquors be used. To this all assented, and Mr. Berry claimed that this was the first temperance society in the state.

Mr. Berry had associated with him at different times Nathaniel Clark and John McClary, and at one time sold the whole plant to Nathaniel G. Upton; but very soon he re-pur-

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<sup>1</sup>Dr. J. S. Eaton said this building was raised May 1, 1829, the day before he first visited Bristol.



chased and continued the business till Sept. 2, 1836, when he sold to Warren White. The property at this time consisted, as appears from an advertisement a few months previous in the *New Hampshire Patriot*, of "a bark-mill, hide-mill, rolling-mill and pump, all propelled by water; factory 86 x 36 feet, two stories; bark house 43 x 21, two stories; bark shed 60 x 26; curry shop 30 x 21, two stories." This advertisement gave the additional information that bark was plenty at from \$2 to \$2.50 per cord, and that freight to and from Boston was fifty cents per 100 pounds. The capacity of the yard was 3,000 hides per year.

Mr. White had had several years' experience in tanning, and at once entered upon the prosecution of his business with that energy and sagacity that characterized all his business efforts. From that time till his death in 1874, a period of thirty-eight years, he operated this tannery to its full capacity, which was, during the last few years, 6,000 hides yearly. In 1845, he rebuilt and enlarged. In 1853, fire destroyed the buildings, but he immediately rebuilt. After his death, his son, Marshall W. White, continued the business for the heirs till May 25, 1881, when the property was sold to Dr. Moore Russell Fletcher. Two months later, Dr. Fletcher conveyed it to the New Hampshire Chemical Pulp company, a company organized under the laws of the state of New Jersey, for the manufacture of chemical pulp. In August, 1882, after a few months of active operation, there came into being a new company composed practically of the same men as the old, and called the New Hampshire Pulp and Paper company. This company abandoned the manufacture of pulp by the chemical process, and put in operation several stones to grind the wood into fibre; a process then generally in vogue. The same month, the company purchased the paper-mill of Mason & Wooster on Lake street, and commenced there the manufacture of manila paper from the pulp made at the tannery site. Joseph H. Hayden, of Boston, was the general manager of all the operations of this company. The business did not, however, prove a success, and in June, 1884, the company assigned to Fling & Chase, lawyers, of Bristol, with an indebtedness of nearly \$20,000.

Feb. 11, 1885, Messrs. Train, Smith & Co., of Boston, creditors, took possession of these two mills under a foreclosure of mortgage, and commenced to operate them. One year later they came into full possession. In the summer and fall of 1888, extensive improvements were made at the pulp-mill. Messrs. Train, Smith & Co. leased of the Bristol Water Power company all the water in the stream to which they were not already entitled. A dam was built by the Water Power company across the south channel, and a canal, twelve feet wide and four deep, was cut to turn the water into the north channel at the junction of Water and Central streets. To convey this water to the mill

a new flume, one hundred feet long, nine feet high, and twelve feet broad, was constructed. The stone work under the mill was replaced with brick. The wheel-pit was sunk ten feet in the solid rock, and the channel, cut in 1865, was sunk seven feet deeper and made fifteen feet wide to convey the waste water back to the south branch, into the dam of the pulp-mill near the railroad station. This gave a head and fall of thirty-five feet, and in the wheel-pit were placed two 30-inch horizontal Hunt wheels, of 500 horse-power. A steel penstock seven feet in diameter and ninety feet long connected the flume with the wheel. New grinders were placed in the mill and other improvements made. The mill now ground 1,500 cords of wood per year, and gave employment to nine hands.

In the morning of June 27, 1901, the pulp-mill was destroyed by fire. The work of rebuilding was commenced soon after, and Oct. 28, following, a new brick building was completed, 90 x 48 feet, one story and basement, equipped with the latest machinery for making pulp. The power was now furnished by two 27-inch McCormick wheels and one 18-inch Hunt wheel. Ira B. Burpee has had charge of this mill as foreman for sixteen years.

From what has been said, it appears that the first grist-mill and saw-mill on the south side of Newfound river were erected by Moses Lewis, about 1805. The first dam at this point was just below the present bridge from Central square. The grist-mill was next below the dam, and the saw-mill still farther down the stream. In 1822, the court ordered the heirs of Thomas W. Thompson to remove or lower this dam because it caused the water to flow land owned by other parties. The present dam, farther down the stream, was then built, and the old dam removed. On South Main street, two or three rods south of the bridge, was a large culvert under the highway, through which a part of the river flowed in times of high water, and the blacksmith shop, that stood where the post-office block now stands, was at such times on an island.

These mills were a part of the property of Moses Lewis, which came into the possession of Thomas W. Thompson, as narrated above, and were a part of the property which, by the will of Mr. Thompson, passed in 1822, one-half into the hands of Dartmouth college, one-fourth to the American Education society, and one-fourth to the New Hampshire Missionary society. William C. Thompson, of Plymouth, was the successor of Dartmouth college and the societies named above, in 1829, and the same year he sold to Brackett L. Greenough.

In 1836, Mr. Greenough built a new grist-mill farther down the stream, below the saw-mill. The water to operate it was still taken from the same dam by means of a flume. This building is now the first story of the main building owned by Calley & Currier, crutch manufacturers. Trueworthy G. Currier came

from Hopkinton and erected the mill, and on its completion operated it on shares until 1849. The mill when completed had four run of stone, and another was added soon after. In 1843, Mr. Greenough sold the saw-mill and grist-mill to I. C. & Levi Bartlett. Soon after, Levi Bartlett became the sole owner and built what is now known as the Blake block, next to the bridge from Central square, for a threshing-mill. In June, 1849, Mr. Bartlett sold the whole to Daniel B. Bartlett for \$7,000. In November, following, Daniel B. Bartlett sold the grist-mill to T. G. Currier for \$4,000, and the same day sold the saw-mill to Jersine B. Favor, and about 1855 sold the threshing-mill to Aaron Jewett. Mr. Favor operated the saw-mill for two years, when Severance & Favor took possession. They were succeeded by Dearborn & Kidder, who continued from 1853 till 1856. Joshua Kidder sold his half to James Patten, and Mr. Patten sold to A. S. Dearborn, who was the owner from about 1856 till 1864, during which time the mill was operated by Benjamin E. Blackstone, with the exception of one year (1863), when Henry & Benjamin L. Wells did business here. In 1864, B. E. Blackstone succeeded to the ownership and operated the mill about two years, when he, in turn, sold to Calvin D. Cass, who sold to William A. Berry, in 1868. Mr. Berry sold one-half of this property to Milton A. Kent, and Kent & Berry prosecuted the glove business here till 1877, when the building was torn down and has not been rebuilt. July 12, 1880, Mr. Berry sold his interest in the real estate to Albert Blake. Mr. Kent continued the manufacture of gloves in Bristol, in what is now Frank W. Bingham's harness shop, till 1886, George F. Buttrick being in charge of the work.

After Mr. Currier purchased, in 1849, he continued to own and operate the grist-mill till March, 1865, when he sold to Draper & Berry, who, in turn, for \$700, sold to Forbes & Cass, the owners of the grist-mill on the north side of the stream, all the water to which the Currier grist-mill was entitled, over and above 336 cubic inches,<sup>1</sup> and to Henry Nuttall, of Cohoes, N. Y., the grist-mill and 200 cubic inches of water, reserving to themselves 136 cubic inches.

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<sup>1</sup>The sale of this surplus water was the cause of long and expensive litigation. The grist-mill privilege on the south side of the river was entitled to the first right of sufficient water to turn all its wheels. The saw-mill privilege, between the grist-mill and the dam, was entitled to the surplus water over and above that used at the grist-mill. The owners of the saw-mill privilege contended that the water could not be diverted from one side of the stream to the other, and continued to use water claimed by virtue of this purchase to belong to the north side. The heirs of Josiah Minot, owning the grist-mill privilege on the north side of the stream, brought suit against Kent & Blake, the owners of the saw-mill privilege, for the misuse of the water. The case was first heard by Hon. Ira Colby, of Claremont, as referee, at the town hall in Bristol in July, 1897, and was



Mr. Nuttall added another story to the grist-mill building, and, in company with John H. Musgrove, carried on for a year or more the manufacture of shirts and drawers, under the name of the Granite State company. In 1867, Mr. Nuttall sold to R. W. and J. H. Musgrove, and they carried on the wool business here for about three years. They were succeeded by Rice & Turner, who prosecuted the hosiery business till about 1875, when they sold to A. M. Draper, who manufactured buckskin gloves and mittens. In 1880, William T. Taylor and Frank A. Gordon purchased this property and engaged in the manufacture of picker-sticks and other mill supplies, employing ten or twelve hands. At the same time they prosecuted an outside business as carpenters and builders. Mr. Gordon retired in July, 1892, and Mr. Taylor continued the business here till his death, in September, 1893. William A. Berry succeeded to the business and continued till 1899, when he sold to Calley & Currier. Here Calley & Currier have the largest manufactory of crutches in the United States. This business was commenced in November, 1881, by F. W. Calley and J. A. Simonds. George C. Currier soon after succeeded Mr. Simonds, and the firm became Calley & Currier. They prosecuted their business in the attic of the enlarged grist-mill building till 1884, when a two-story addition, 25 x 40 feet, was erected for their use, and another addition, 20 x 16, a year or two later. They now occupy the whole of the main building and additions, employing fifteen hands or more, and make a large number of crutches which are shipped to all parts of the world. In a building connected on the south, Frank A. Gordon is engaged in the manufacture of picker-sticks and other mill supplies.

In 1865, Draper & Berry built a glove shop about 24 x 50 feet, one-story and basement, on land next below the Currier grist-mill, and on its completion moved their works from Lake street to this place. The power to carry the machinery was the 136 cubic inches of water reserved in their deeds that year to

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continued from term to term till May, 1899, when a report was rendered that the sale was valid. This report was carried on questions of law to the full bench, and the report was affirmed in the spring of 1902.

As a part of his report, the referee found that the amount of water to which the grist-mill on the south side was entitled, previous to the sale of 1865, was 980 inches under twelve foot head; that the saw-mill was accustomed to run but little, except in the spring and fall; that in times of low water the average discharge from the lake is equal to 800 square inches, under twelve foot head, giving 464 inches in excess of the 336 inches reserved in the sale. The court also found that the flow of water in 1894 and 1895 was 6,000 or 6,200 cubic feet per minute in the river. Of this the grist-mill privilege on the south side was entitled to only 2,469 cubic feet per minute. Dearborn & Chase, of Bristol, and Hon. J. S. H. Frink, of Greenland, were counsel for the plaintiff; Hon. L. W. Fling, of Bristol, and Hon. John M. Mitchell, of Concord, were counsel for the defendants.



Forbes & Cass and to Henry Nuttall. Here Draper & Berry continued the manufacture of buckskin gloves and mittens till 1867, when Mr. Berry sold his interest to his partner. The business was continued by Mr. Draper, Hiram Harriman, and George A. Draper, under the firm name of J. C. Draper & Co., till April, 1868, when J. C. Draper died; by Hiram Harriman, Alfred P. Harriman, and Burley M. Ames, till the building was destroyed by fire, in 1875.

On the site of this glove shop was built, in 1879, the present saw-mill by Thomas T. Drake, who operated the same for some time. His successors have been Edward M. Drake, Hutchinson Brothers, Charles P. George, Charles A. George, and Homer H. Hutchinson; Mr. Hutchinson now operating the mill. The Hutchinson Brothers, besides operating the saw-mill, did a large business in the manufacture of articles of wood, such as clothes-horses, saw-horses, and clothes-line reels, and this business is now prosecuted by Homer H. Hutchinson, in addition to operating the saw-mill. Frank B. Wells now occupies the basement for the manufacture of house finish and carpenter work. Marshall Ballou occupied a portion of this mill for five years, 1885-9, in the manufacture of picker-sticks, and Warren E. Locke manufactured articles of wood here, 1883-5.

Aaron Jewett came into the possession of the Blake block, as named above, about 1855. Newton Gage & Company, David Gage, I. Fred Smith, Aaron Jewett, and George A. Robie successively manufactured bedsteads here. Albert Blake became the owner of this property about 1865, and refitted the building for mercantile uses, and erected, in 1871, a building for a planing-mill at the southeast corner. In this mill Mr. Blake and R. S. Hastings did business in 1872. They were succeeded by B. L. & A. Wells who manufactured house finish here till 1889, when they removed to the carriage factory building. From February, 1897, to the spring of 1902, it was used by the Bartlett Shoe company, which employed about twenty-five hands in the manufacture of shoes.

The power to drive the machinery at this point was derived from a wheel, placed above the dam near the building, which discharged its water through a spout under the dam. When Mr. Blake erected the planing-mill, he placed the wheel below the dam, discharging its water into the wing dam of the grist-mill on the north side of the stream, as before. In 1881, he lowered this wheel, thereby discharging the water into the stream below the wing dam, until, by order of the court, it was raised so as to again discharge its water into the wing dam.

#### GRIST-MILL ON CENTRAL STREET

The exact date when the grist-mill privilege on Central street was first utilized for manufacturing purposes cannot

now be determined. According to the genealogy of the Kelly family, Ebenezer Kelly was associated with Moses Lewis in the dressing of cloth at this site. This must have been at some date between 1794 and 1804, and these men were probably the first to engage in this industry in Bristol village. In 1804, Moses Lewis sold to James Martin forty-four square rods of land on the north bank of Newfound river, including this site, on which was a carding-mill. Soon after this purchase, a dye-house was erected on the east and later a fulling-mill, or clothing-mill, was added on the west. Mr. Martin continued in business till 1809, when he was succeeded by Elliott & Durgin, who prosecuted the business till 1817. In October of this year, Pingree & Powers advertised in the *New Hampshire Patriot* that they had bought the fulling-mill in Bridgewater village and that they had four workmen, "one of whom was from England," and that they would "dye the following colors, and dress the same in a workmanlike manner: Deep blue, black, Bristol mud, wine, London brown, crawbo, drab, olive brown, light olive, navy blue, bottle green, grass green, pea green, scarlet, red and various other colors."

Jesse Sanborn was in business here in April, 1824, and Jonathan Powers again came into possession a year later. Mr. Powers left town in 1827, and John Little appears to have been his successor. He evidently died while conducting this business, for in January, 1830, Thomas Little, his administrator, offered for sale the "carding- and clothing-mill belonging to said estate, a dye-house and shop two-stories, and small dwelling-house, machinery, and other articles belonging to the carding and clothing business."

In June, 1832, Fordyce F. Lincoln, agent, advertised that he had newly fitted up the woolen-mill in Bristol village for manufacturing custom wool into cloth of any kind on shares. Mr. Lincoln was in business here in 1833, and, in March of that year, gave to Aaron Emmons a mortgage of the machinery, consisting of a carding machine and picker, a 50-spindle billey, 100-spindle jinny, a warping mill, twisting machine, five looms, 1,400 filling bobbins, and 600 warp bobbins.

This same year, Aaron Emmons and Kinsley Mason associated themselves with Lincoln, under the firm name of Emmons, Lincoln & Mason. Later, Mr. Emmons became the sole owner, and, in 1837, sold to Moses Morey, who, in 1838, sold to Daniel B. Bartlett, and he, the same year, sold to Jonathan Moulton. Mr. Moulton, in 1840, sold to Joseph Ela, and, in 1853, Ela sold to Calvin D. Cass. Five years later, Mr. Cass discontinued the clothing business and put in operation a grist-mill. In 1860, he rebuilt and enlarged. In 1865, he sold one-half of the business to Wells Forbes, and the business was continued under the firm name of Forbes & Cass. This firm purchased the surplus

water, to which the grist-mill privilege on the south side of the river was entitled, and, in turn, sold one-half of this water to Samuel Page, the owner of the shoe factory site. Soon after this, Mr. Cass sold his interest in the grist-mill to his partner.

In 1867, Mr. Forbes sold to George T. Crawford, and Mr. Crawford and Reuben B. Locke commenced business under the firm name of Crawford & Locke. They largely increased the capacity of the mill and had three run of stone for the manufacture of flour, and two for custom grinding. The daily output of flour was from thirty to fifty barrels, and each year they ground from 30,000 to 40,000 bushels of corn, which found a sale in Bristol and neighboring towns. They continued the business till 1872, or early part of 1873, when Cyrus Taylor succeeded Mr. Locke, and the firm became Crawford, Taylor & Co. A few months later, Person C. Shaw, of Sanbornton, succeeded Mr. Crawford, and the firm became Taylor, Shaw & Co. They discontinued the manufacture of flour but did a large business in corn. In 1874, Woodbury Sleeper succeeded to this business, and he was succeeded by R. B. Locke. Mr. Taylor and Mr. Shaw resumed business here in the fall of 1877 under the firm name of Taylor & Shaw.

In July, 1884, Clarence N. Merrill, an employee of the mill, bought Mr. Shaw's interest, and the firm became Taylor & Merrill. In 1895, they built a storehouse 45 x 80 feet, three stories high, opposite the mill, extending from Central to Spring street. In May, 1896, Mr. Taylor retired and the business has since been continued by Mr. Merrill, who does an extensive business, grinding 60,000 bushels or more of corn each year. He is also a large dealer in fertilizers, farming machinery, coal, wood, hay, and lumber. In 1896, Mr. Merrill purchased of the heirs of Judge Minot the grist-mill and water-power connected.

#### SHOE FACTORY SITE

In December, 1832, Brackett L. Greenough conveyed the site of the shoe factory to Daniel Kennedy, with the right to draw water from the dam across the river at this point sufficient to turn one wheel, when the water was not needed on the south side of the stream. Kennedy erected on this land a small building that he used as a wheelwright shop. This building was destroyed by fire and rebuilt by Kennedy, previous to 1837. Moses Morey was his successor in this business, and James Butters was in business here from 1839 till as late as 1845. House & Ainsworth were here, as house carpenters, from about 1848 till 1851, when Reuben B. Locke succeeded Mr. Ainsworth. The second story of this building was used as a paint shop for many years.

From 1855 till 1865, Samuel Page was in business here as a wood-worker or maker of house finish. He was succeeded by



James T. Sanborn and Chas. Forrest, who continued the same business till succeeded by Edmund Jordan, about 1867. Mr. Jordan continued to own this property till 1874, when he was succeeded by George G. Brown, who removed the main building, or west end, and in its place erected a stable, and converted the one-story ell on the east into a grist-mill. Here he operated a grist-mill till October, 1882, grinding 20,000 bushels of corn per year. During this time, Hon. Samuel K. Mason was associated with him from November, 1874, till August, 1876, and Reuben B. Locke, a year or more from January, 1878.

For some years the stable was used by Charles E. Davis as a livery stable, and he was thus using it in 1894,<sup>1</sup> when Mr. Brown sold to the Bristol Improvement company. This company was incorporated March 20, of that year, and erected the present four-story building, at a cost of \$8,000, as a place of business for Nathaniel Bartlett & Son, shoe manufacturers. Messrs. Bartlett took possession soon after its completion, being exempt from taxation for ten years, and continued the business till Sept. 1, 1896, when they assigned with liabilities amounting to \$35,000 and assets \$32,600. The business was closed up by the assignee.

The business men of Bristol, anxious to have the building used, and to increase the business of the place, assisted the firm of Farnsworth & Saunders to commence business here as shoe manufacturers, but the firm had but small financial resources, and soon failed. Another firm commenced business here, but was discouraged by the lack of tenements in town and withdrew, and the building has since remained idle.

About 1843, B. L. Greenough had a wheel-wright shop at the west of this building, about where Horace H. Kirk's residence now stands.

#### CARRIAGE FACTORY SITE

In 1829, Col. John S. Bryant was engaged in the cabinet business in the ell of the second story of his house which stood where the bank block now stands. This house and shop were destroyed by fire Oct. 15, of that year, and Mr. Bryant built a small cabinet shop on Central street, about ten feet in front of the east end of the carriage factory now occupied by B. L. & A. Wells.

In April, 1823, Abbott Lovejoy purchased the blacksmith shop that stood on the site of Cavis block, and here continued the blacksmith business till May, 1832, when he sold to Joseph Noyes and established himself just west of John S. Bryant's

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<sup>1</sup>This stable was purchased by Thomas T. Drake, who used the material in the erection of a large two-story house on School street near the base of Sugar hill.



shop on Central street. Mr. Lovejoy did a general blacksmith business, and in addition made edge tools. He was noted for relaying axes; and teamsters from the northern part of this state and Vermont, when on their way to Boston, would leave axes with him to be relayed, and call for them on their return.

In 1836, Downing & Gove were proprietors of the cabinet shop, and one year later, John C. Gove was in business alone. Harvey N. Ingalls appears to have succeeded Mr. Gove, and his brother, George Washington Ingalls, was later associated with him, and they continued the business several years. Abram Brown was here as a wheelwright in 1845, and Hollis Thompson in 1846.

In 1849, William C. Lovejoy and Joseph D. Kelley, under the firm name of Lovejoy & Kelley, commenced the manufacture of carriages here, the wood work being done in the east building and the iron work in the west building. They absorbed the business of Abbott Lovejoy, but discontinued the making of edge tools. This company gave employment to thirty hands and the carriages made here were noted for their durability.

In 1848, when Water street was laid out, the corner building was cut off or moved back about ten feet. In 1859, the present building was constructed by Lovejoy & Kelley. It is 40 x 100 feet, two stories, besides attic and basement. Joseph D. Kelley withdrew from the business about 1867, and Geo. W. Dow was associated with Mr. Lovejoy for a time two years later, but at this time the business had largely decreased owing to the introduction of western machine-made carriages. About 1871, Otis K. Bucklin purchased this property and continued the owner till his death in 1887. From about 1882 till 1886, George A. Robie was associated with Mr. Bucklin. It remained idle some years till April, 1889, when it was purchased by Benj. L. & Albro Wells and Marshall Ballou. Since this transfer the western end has been used by Marshall Ballou for the manufacture of pickersticks, while B. L. & A. Wells have occupied the rest for a planing-mill and the manufacture of house finish. Chas. W. Fling was associated with the last named firm for a few years previous to Jan. 1, 1895.

#### BLACK LEAD MILL

The blacksmith shop on the west side of Water street was used, in 1845, by Olup, Zeabury & Watkins for grinding plumbago from the mine on the Samuel Hilands farm, east of the lake, described elsewhere. This firm also engaged in casting stoves in a building just west of this mill, but it was not successful financially and the members left town suddenly. The building has since been used for various purposes. Here A. H. Blaisdell put in operation, about 1860, the first machine-shop in Bris-

tol, which he operated till 1865. Don P. Alexander & Co. continued the business till 1868, when they were succeeded by Moody O. Edgerly, who was in business here till 1876. He was followed by J. D. Hemphill, J. D. Kelley, and Geo. A. Robie who also operated a carding machine, and Jeremiah A. Haynes, who had a blacksmith shop here. After the destruction of their factory by fire in December, 1885, E. D. Crosby & Co. used this building for the manufacture of croquet sets. They were followed by Charles A. Pearson, who occupied a part of the building as a blacksmith shop, and Fred C. Foss, who did carriage work at the same time. It has since been used only as a blacksmith shop, the last few years by Clarence A. Smith.

#### MACHINE-SHOP AND FOUNDRY

In July, 1846, Abbott Lovejoy sold the site of C. W. Holmes's machine-shop and foundry to Ebenezer Kendall. On the site of the machine-shop a building was erected in which Hiram W. Kendall manufactured bedsteads, and on the east, where is now the foundry, Ebenezer Kendall had a small building where he made laths, shingles, and bedstead stock. Levi C. Gurdy purchased this property in 1868, and a year or two later erected the present machine-shop. For a short time, Geo. A. Robie and Horace L. Ingalls manufactured bedsteads in the second story. Holland & Hemphill had a machine-shop in the first story, and this business was continued by McDaniels & Blake, by George A. Robie, and, since 1890, by Charles W. Holmes.

The present foundry building was erected by Levi C. Gurdy. Mr. Gurdy was a practical moulder and carried on the foundry business here for a time. George A. Robie, Reuben B. Locke, and Walter F. Prince were in business here later.

#### BEDSTEAD FACTORY

About 1855, Henry Wells erected on the east side of Water street, a two-story building, about 30 x 60 feet, one story, for a carpenter shop. About 1862, Milo H. Crosby purchased this property, raised the building and put underneath an additional story and built an addition of thirty feet on the east. Later he erected another addition, 16 x 30 feet, next to the highway. Here he engaged in the manufacture of bedsteads, and latter of croquet sets on a large scale, employing thirty or forty hands. His son, Edward D. Crosby, was associated with him most of the time. About 1864, Mr. Crosby sold to Thos. H. Morey and repurchased about one year later. This building was destroyed by fire Dec. 29, 1885; loss estimated at \$12,000, and the works were not rebuilt. The business was continued in town under the name of Crosby & Co., E. D. Crosby & Co., and Milo H. Crosby, agent, as described elsewhere.

## COTTON- AND WOOLEN-MILL

The Bridgewater Village Cotton and Woolen Manufacturing company was incorporated June 23, 1814. The incorporators were Ichabod C. Bartlett, William Pattee, Thomas W. Thompson, William Webster, Daniel Smith, and others. This company was authorized to hold personal property to the value of \$40,000, and real estate to the value of \$10,000, and to engage in the manufacture of cotton and wool. The shares were to be one hundred in number, and the company was to be exempt from taxation for a term of ten years from the commencement of operations.

There is no record or tradition to show that this company ever commenced business, unless it was by the erection of a dam on the south branch of Newfound river, where is now the dam of the Mason-Perkins pulp-mill, as a dam seems to have been built here by some parties before this privilege was purchased by the Bristol Manufacturing company.

Aug. 6, 1835, Brackett L. Greenough sold to Joseph Ladd, of Bristol, Samuel Johnson and Dr. Nathan Shattuck, of Andover, Mass., the site of the Mason-Perkins Paper company's pulp-mill near the railroad station, including the foundation of a dam then on the privilege.

These gentlemen and their associates were incorporated June 14, 1836, under the name of the Bristol Manufacturing company. The capital stock was \$100,000, each shareholder being entitled to one vote on each share to the number of ten, and one vote on each five shares above ten.

This company erected the same year a factory three stories high, besides a basement and double attic, after the manner of factories of those days. It had projecting entries, where were located winding stairs, on each floor of which were wide doors through which heavy articles were admitted after being drawn up by pulley-blocks attached to a projecting beam. The roof was surmounted with a belfry in which hung the bell that now hangs in the tower of the engine-house. Nearly in front, and about where the concrete crossing now is, was erected a two-story boarding-house. This building was torn down to make way for the road to the station when the railroad was built.

The only road to this mill was on the south bank of the river from the turnpike, passing in front of what is now Calley & Currier's crutch factory, and where now stands the saw-mill of H. H. Hutchinson.

The power to carry the machinery was furnished by an old-fashioned overshot wheel. The wool used here was purchased in this vicinity, but its cotton and other supplies were brought by teams from Boston.

The mill had run only a year, or a little more, on cassimeres, when the company failed. In December, 1838, the

property was sold at sheriff's sale, and John S. Bryant was the purchaser. This gentleman and Henry Kidder then continued the business some two or three years, when Kidder became involved financially, and Levi Bartlett became connected with it. In all, it was run only about five years. The machinery was removed, and the building remained idle for many years, the target for every boy in town until not a light of glass was left in it.

About 1865, the Merrimack Hosiery Co. utilized this mill for the manufacture of hosiery. David H. Rice was the superintendent, and William A. Rice was one of the overseers. The proprietors never resided in town and, about 1872, business was discontinued owing to the failure of the company. Again the machinery was removed from town.

In 1878, David Mason and R. D. Mossman commenced here the manufacture of wood pulp. William A. Berry succeeded Mr. Mossman in February, 1881, and the Mason-Perkins Paper company succeeded Mason & Berry in February, 1891. The wood pulp business has been continued by this company till now. In the summer of 1883, great improvements were made in the privilege, the wheel-pit was sunk several feet in the solid ledge, and two 30-inch Hunt wheels, having 250 horse-power, were put in. The mill since then has had a capacity for grinding 2,000 cords of wood per year. August 13, 1892, the two upper stories were consumed by fire, after which the present roof was constructed over the lower story.

#### THE POTASH BUSINESS

The first potash in town was built in 1780 by Sherburn Tilton. It was located near the head of Black brook, then known as "Newfound pond" brook, on the west side of the lake. New Chester laid out a road from the outlet of the lake to this potash in 1792, showing it was in operation at that date.

Ichabod Bartlett commenced the potash business in Bristol village soon after he opened his store in Central square, about 1802. The potash stood on the river bank on the southeast corner of what is now the library lot. There were several large arch kettles where he boiled down the lye extracted from the ashes. This lye, after being boiled sufficiently, became solid when cold and in this condition it was shipped to market. This business was of great importance to this section, for here the farmers exchanged large quantities of ashes, made in the old-fashioned fireplaces, for rum and other necessary merchandise at Mr. Bartlett's store. Gen. David Sanborn had charge of this potash for many years.

#### THE BROWN TANNERY

On the south side of Pleasant street, east of Newfound river



where is now the Riverside hotel, Robert Brown had a tannery as early as 1818. In the first story of the east part of this hotel was a curry shop, and in the second story was a shoe shop where were employed from five to ten men making shoes for market. The tan pits were between this building and the river, while the bark-mill, driven by a wind-mill, stood in the rear. Robert Brown was succeeded by his son, Samuel C., who did an extensive business here till about 1851, when he bought the Kendall saw-mill on Lake street and removed his business there. The old curry shop remained vacant many years, till it was made into a dwelling-house. It was partially destroyed by fire, Oct. 28, 1882.

#### THE PRAY TANNERY

Where is now the stone-crushing plant on Lake street, a saw-mill was erected by Joshua T. Kendall, in 1849, and operated by him a year or two. It was then purchased by Samuel C. Brown, who fitted it up as a tannery, and manufactured leather till 1854, when he removed to the west. He was succeeded by Gustavus Bartlett and Warren White, who continued the tanning business under the firm name of Bartlett & White, till 1869, when they sold to Ebenezer K. Pray. Mr. Pray continued the business till 1884. After this date, it remained idle till September, 1887, when it was purchased by Milo H. Crosby, agent, who commenced in January, 1888, the manufacture of croquet sets. It was destroyed by fire Jan. 9, 1889. The power to drive the wheels here and at the pill-box shop, adjoining on the north, was taken from the same canal as the water to furnish the power for the mill on Willow street. After the fire, the real estate passed into the hands of Taylor & Merrill, who sold the water rights to the Mason-Perkins Paper company.

#### PILL-BOX SHOP

The old building, next north of the Pray tannery, near the junction of Willow with Lake street, was erected about 1845 by Caleb Beede for the manufacture of house finish. He continued to use it for this purpose about five years. At the same time, the second story was used by Tucker & Weymouth for the manufacture of pill-boxes from wood, and it was for this reason that the building was called the pill-box shop. The Mr. Weymouth of this firm was A. D. Weymouth, who has since become famous as the inventor of the Weymouth lathe. The most permanent business carried on here was the manufacture of Plymouth buckskin gloves and mittens, by Draper & Berry, from 1858 till 1865.

#### WILLOW STREET MILLS

The first mill on Willow street was a satinet factory about

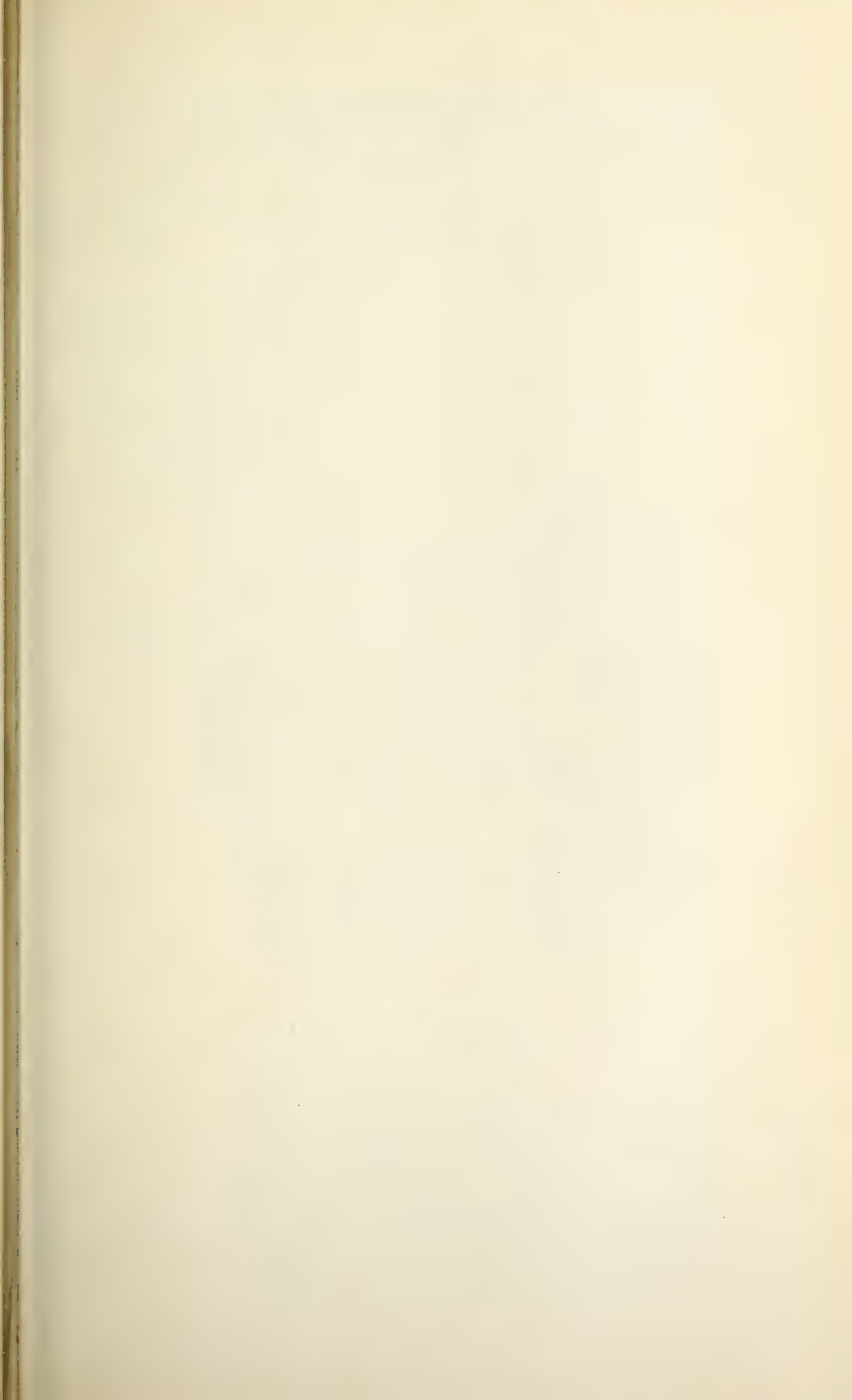
40 x 60 feet, two stories high, built in 1842. Jesse George appears to have been the owner in 1843, when the real estate was assessed at \$660, and S. S. Worthing was manufacturing satinets, and was assessed for \$650 stock in trade. Mr. Worthing carried on the business in 1844 and 1845. In 1846, Kimball & Co. were in business here, and S. S. and Amos H. Worthing in 1847. Reuben Rollins came into possession in 1847, and was operating the mill in 1848, when it was destroyed by fire. The next year, the privilege was sold for taxes. Levi Bartlett was the purchaser, paying \$2.54 taxes and \$4.79 costs.

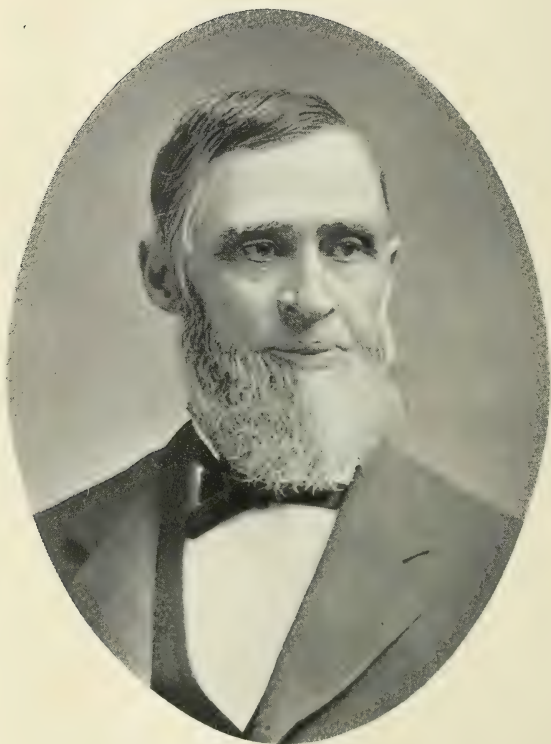
In 1852, David Mason and George W. Dow erected a mill here for the manufacture of strawboard, and did a large and prosperous business. Mr. Dow retired during the Civil war, and Mr. Mason continued the business till 1872, when he sold to Mason, Perkins & Co. The present pulp-mill was built in 1889, by the last named company. Four hands are employed here, and about one ton of pulp per day is made. The water for this privilege is taken from a dam on Newfound river about twenty-five or thirty rods distant, and brought to the mill in a canal. This canal was enlarged in 1889 so as to take all the water of the river at a low stage.

#### DODGE-DAVIS MANUFACTURING CO.'S MILL

The woolen-mill of the Dodge-Davis Manufacturing company is located one mile northwest of Central square on Lake street. The first mill erected here was a paper-mill, built, in 1857, by Daniel S. Mason, David Mason, George W. Dow, and Calvin Swett, under the firm name of Mason, Swett & Co. Mr. Swett retired about 1858, and the firm name became D. & D. S. Mason & Co. These firms made white paper and this business was continued till October, 1862, when the mill was destroyed by fire. In 1863, Mr. Dow erected another building, 42 x 72 feet, three stories including a basement, and here John H. Musgrove manufactured shirts and drawers for a year or two under the name of the Granite State company. Here he first made, of knit cloth, as an experiment, an outside garment called a "Cardigan jacket," named from Cardigan mountain, and a few were put on sale at the store of George M. Cavis. They were received with so much favor that others were made for the Boston market, and this was the origin of the Cardigan jackets that have been made and worn in such countless numbers all over the Union.

In 1865, Benj. F. Holden came to Bristol from West Concord and associated himself with Geo. W. Dow, under the firm name of Dow & Holden, for the manufacture of shaker flannels. In 1867, or the early part of 1868, Mr. Dow withdrew and the firm became Holden & Co., the firm consisting of Benj. F. Holden, Benj. F. Holden, Jr., and Samuel E. Holden. They





JOHN W. DODGE

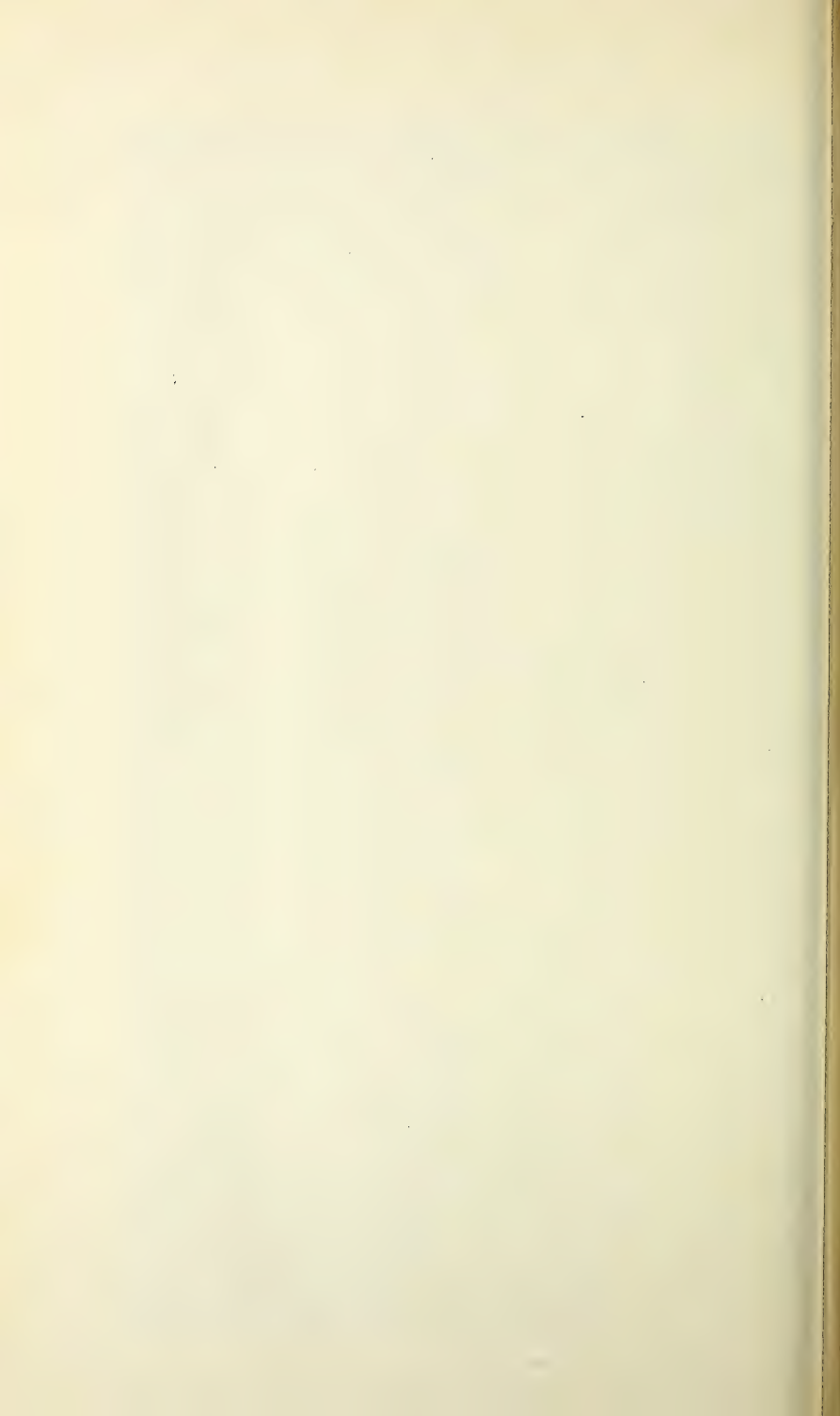




(View from the west)

MILLS OF THE DODGE-DAVIS MANUFACTURING COMPANY

(View from the street)



continued business here till May, 1883, running two sets of cards and giving employment to forty hands.

In May, 1883, Dodge, Davis & Co., of Enfield, bought the mill with its equipments. Work was at once begun to improve and enlarge the mill and in March, 1885, the company moved three sets of machinery here from Enfield. Further extensions to the mills were made in 1887, 1890, 1895, and 1900, when the floor space was 60,500 feet with eleven sets of machinery and equipments including a complete electric lighting plant, all driven by a 200-horse-power water-wheel. At the east end of the dam is a repair shop equipped with iron- and wood-working and box-making machinery, driven by a 35-horse-power water-wheel and lighted by electricity. Storehouses with 17,300 feet of floor space and houses with eight tenements for employees have also been built. The mills are protected from fire by a sprinkler system internally and hydrants outside which are connected with the town water system, and are also supplied from a powerful fire pump.

The mills employ about one hundred hands with a pay-roll of about \$750 per week. The production is 750,000 yards annually, mostly the finest white flannels, made from the choicest wool grown, and the reputation of these goods stands second to none in this country. The goods are sold direct, mostly to large retailers, one salesman traveling from the mill and another having headquarters in Chicago. The partnership of Dodge, Davis & Co. was merged into the corporation of Dodge-Davis Manufacturing company in October, 1887, with practically the same ownership and management. Mr. Dodge was president of the company till his death, in February, 1897. Since then the officers have been H. C. Whipple, president and treasurer; Fred A. Spencer, assistant treasurer, and Chas. W. Fling, secretary.

Mr. Dodge resided in Bristol from May, 1883, to November, 1884, when he returned to Enfield, though he was in town more or less thereafter in connection with the business in which he had a deep interest. Mr. Davis never resided in town, only coming here as business required. Mr. Whipple came to town from Enfield, in November, 1884, and Mr. Spencer in 1886.

#### TRAIN-SMITH CO.'S PAPER-MILL SITE

The site of the Train-Smith company's mill was first utilized for manufacturing purposes in 1866, when Charles N. Drake and Col. Samuel H. Rollins erected a saw-mill. They operated this mill till the spring of 1867, when Benj. F. Perkins, who came to Bristol from New Hampton, and Geo. Z. Collins, of Boston, purchased it and converted it into a mill for the manufacture of straw-board. The name of the new firm was B. F. Perkins & Co. In the fall of that year, Burley M. Ames bought a third interest,

and a year later Mr. Collins sold his interest to his partners, who continued the business.

In 1871, the firm of Mason, Perkins & Co., spoken of elsewhere, was formed and Mr. Perkins sold his interest in this business to Robert M. Mason, and Ames & Mason continued the business three or four years, when Ames sold his interest to George M. Wooster. The firm then became Mason & Wooster, and the new firm continued the business till it sold to the New Hampshire Pulp and Paper company in 1882. In 1885, Train, Smith & Co. succeeded to this property by foreclosure of mortgage, and have continued the manufacture of paper till now.

In the summer of 1886, Train, Smith & Co. built what is now the main building of this mill, being an addition to the engine room 56 x 40 feet, one story, with a basement and attic. This addition made the engine room 40 x 113 feet. An addition to the engine room was also made of 40 feet, making that room 35 x 140. Connected with the main building was a tower 17 x 18 feet, 75 feet high. A new Hunt wheel of 225 horse-power was put in, the raceway channel was sunk five feet and other improvements made. The water-power is supplemented with a steam engine of eighty horse-power.

In 1900, the company was incorporated under the name of the Train-Smith company. The production of this mill is about six tons of manila paper and newspaper per day.

This mill is supplied with an electric plant of its own, and for fire extinguishing purposes is connected with the Bristol Aqueduct company and provided with automatic sprinklers and fire pump.

From the coming of Train, Smith & Co. to town, Charles A. Lucas has been superintendent of the business.

#### NORTH END GRIST-MILL

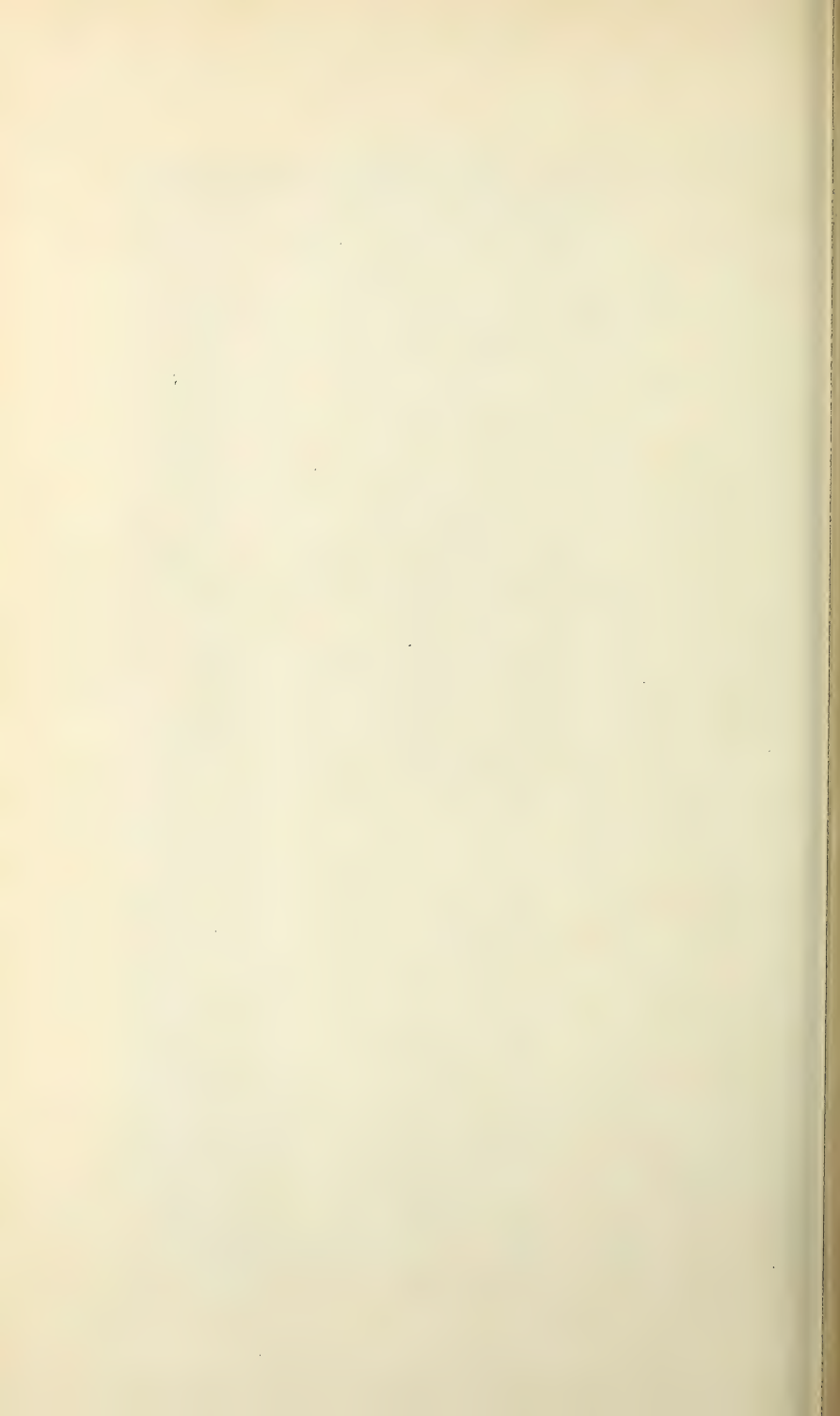
In 1867, Samuel H. Rollins and Charles N. Drake, having sold the saw-mill and privilege where is now the Train-Smith company paper-mill, purchased the water privilege next above and erected a building for a grist-mill and clapboard-mill. After a time, Mr. Drake retired and Mr. Rollins continued to operate the grist-mill with two run of stone till Taylor & Son leased the property and engaged in the grain business in 1873. They added another run of stone. Henry A. Taylor withdrew from the company, P. C. Shaw, of Sanbornton, taking his place, and the firm name became Taylor & Shaw. They were in business till the fall of 1877, and were succeeded by R. B. Locke who operated the mill for a time. He was succeeded by Ariel H. George, who was in business here till sometime in 1883.

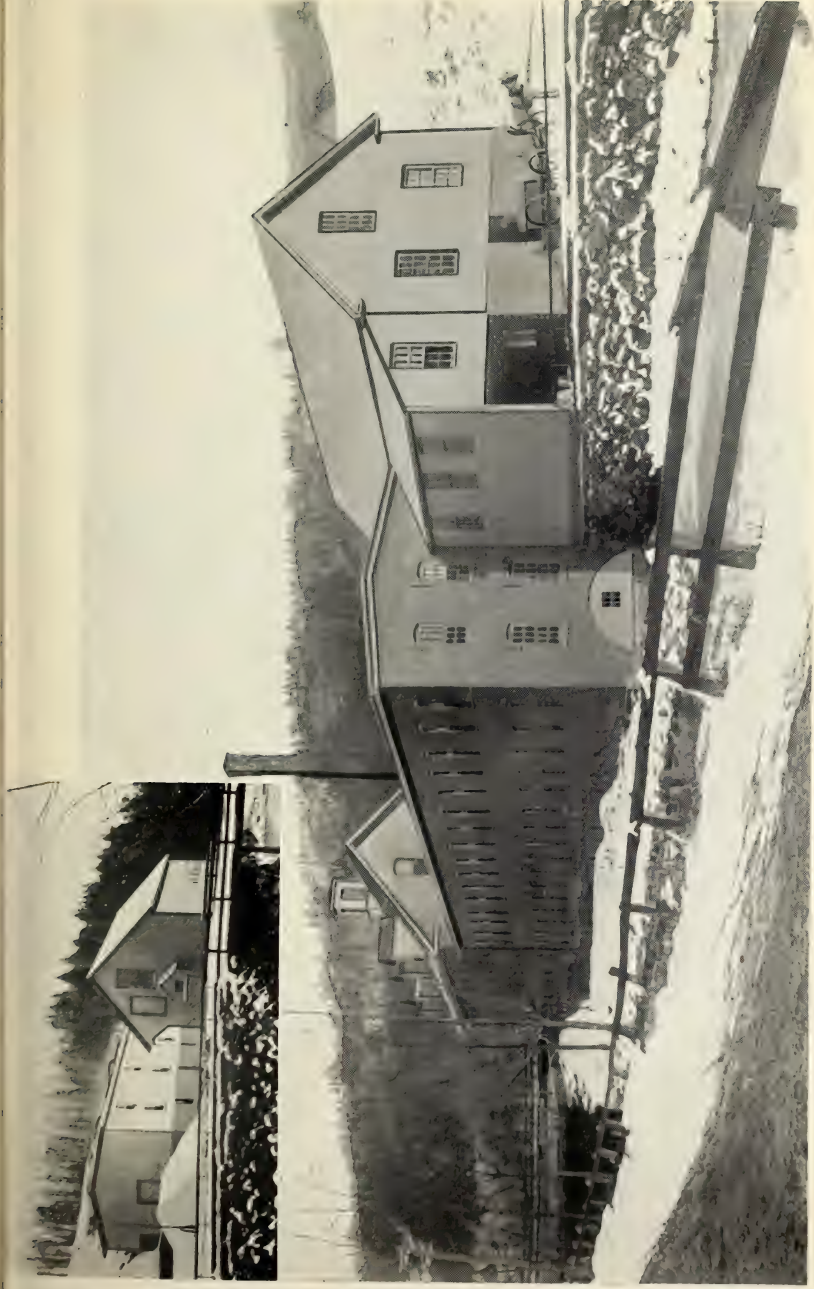
In 1878, Mr. Rollins sold the real estate to Burley M. Ames, and two years later Mr. Ames sold to William C. Kelley, of





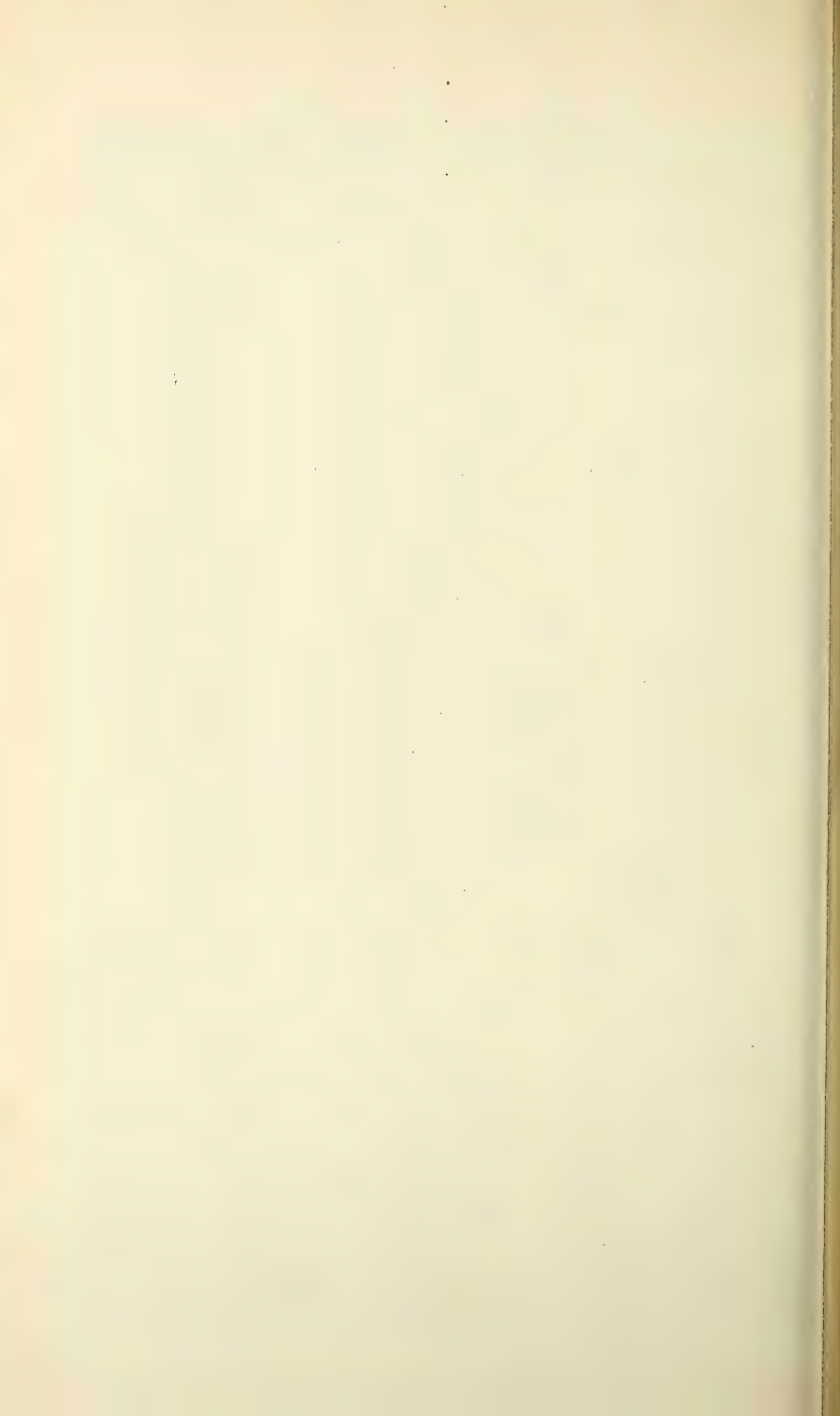
TRAIN-SMITH CO.'S PAPER-MILL





(Store Houses)

MASON-PERKINS PAPER-MILL





Alexandria, who operated the mill from about 1883 till the spring of 1888, when he sold the real estate and business to the Train-Smith company. This company operated the mill till May 1, 1893, when Fred W. Bingham leased it and continued the business for two years. A few months later Louis S. Robie hired the mill and is still prosecuting the grain business here. He grinds about 25,000 bushels of corn each year and also does a large business in flour, hay, wood, and lumber.

#### THE MASON-PERKINS PAPER-MILL

The Mason-Perkins paper-mill is located about one and one-fourth miles north of Central square. In 1871, or January, 1872, the firm of Mason, Perkins & Co. was formed, consisting of David Mason and Benjamin F. Perkins, of Bristol; Nathan H. Weeks, of Plymouth, and James Flanders, of New Hampton. This company erected, in 1872, the present brick mill, and commenced the manufacture of paper in January, following. Mr. Flanders withdrew from the company a year or two later. This company was incorporated July 7, 1886, under the name of the Mason-Perkins Paper company.

Improvements and additions have been made from time to time; but the most extensive was in 1891, when the mill was shut down five months and large additions to the buildings and machinery were made. The present buildings include a bleach and boiler-room, 50 x 40 feet; an engine-room, with basement and attic, 80 x 44; machine-room with basement, 130 x 35, making a continuous building 260 feet in length. Besides this, there is one storehouse, three stories, 73 x 35 feet; a storehouse, two stories, 60 x 30 feet, and other buildings, giving in all floor space of about 36,000 square feet.

This mill is provided with the most modern machinery. The class of goods made has been mostly colored poster paper and white news. The output of paper is from five to six tons per day, and employment is given to twenty-five hands. For protection against fire it is provided with a system of automatic sprinklers, has a steam fire pump with a capacity of 750 gallons per minute, a private reservoir, and hydrants connected with the Bristol Aqueduct company.

Hon. B. F. Perkins was manager and treasurer of this company till 1897, when he retired. Frank P. Fields was elected to take his place and has continued till the present.

#### ELECTRIC LIGHT POWER-STATION

The water-power where is now the power-house of the Bristol Electric Light company was first utilized in 1836, by Joseph Rollins, who built a saw-mill a few rods north of this site. Tradition says that Ebenezer Kendall was associated with him for a time. Samuel H. Rollins became identified with the

business in 1841, which was continued by Joseph and Samuel H. Rollins till about 1865, when the latter retired. Joseph Rollins continued the same till 1869, when Charles W. Batchelder came into possession. He was succeeded, about 1871, by Nathaniel H. Batchelder, who operated the saw-mill for four or five years, and manufactured sleighs. He was succeeded by Sanborn & Brown, or by Sanborn, Forrest & Brown, in 1876, who prosecuted the lumber business here about three years, and were succeeded by E. D. Crosby & Co., Taylor & Merrill, and they, in 1889, by Capt. J. W. Saunders, who paid \$2,000 for the mill and privilege. In 1896, Capt. Saunders sold to N. B. Cloutman, of Alexandria, and he in turn sold to the Bristol Electric Light company, in 1898. This company removed the saw-mill and old wooden dam and erected the present dam with stone abutments, and the brick power-house, which cost with equipments about \$20,000.

#### NORTH BRISTOL

As early as 1804, there was a saw-mill at North Bristol on the east branch of the river. It was reached by the road described elsewhere as laid out in 1801. It was evidently a temporary affair and ceased to be used after a few years.

In 1821, Ebenezer Kendall moved from Hebron to North Bristol, and at once commenced the erection of a saw-mill on the site of the one spoken of above. The bricks used in the construction of this mill were made in Hebron and taken from there to the foot of the lake in a rowboat, by Mr. Kendall. The next spring, he was taxed for \$20 invested in mills at this point. The appraisal was increased each year till 1833, when the value of the mill was assessed at \$1,200.

In 1825, Hezekiah Peck put in operation immediately below the saw-mill, a grist-mill, and the next year Daniel Darling came to this hamlet and added a carding-mill to the industry of the place. The building for the carding-mill stood on the west bank of the east branch of the river, on the north side of the street running at right angles with what is now Lake street. To the carding business was soon after added that of fulling cloth. Jacob N. Darling was engaged in this business in 1834, and he was succeeded, in 1835, by William Chase, who continued the business till 1840, or later.

In 1827, Rev. Walter Sleeper was operating the grist-mill. He was succeeded, about 1830, by Reuben Allen and John Allen, and they by Abram Gates, about 1833.

In 1837 or the early part of 1838, David Chase moved from Loudon to North Bristol and purchased the grist-mill. At this time, there was a corn-mill and a flour bolt here. He added a rye bolt and made other improvements, and operated the mill till 1845. Ebenezer Kendall operated the saw-mill till 1835,

when he sold to Blake Fowler, and he, in turn, sold to David Fowler, his father. David Fowler was operating the mill in the early part of 1839, and a few months later sold to J. F. & J. T. Kendall, who after two years sold to Kendall & Willey, and they to Locke & Drake. Two years later, Philip S. Drake retired, and Levi Locke became the sole proprietor and operated the mill till he sold to the Winnetoesaukee Lake Cotton and Woolen Manufacturing company, in 1846.

After disposing of his saw-mill, in 1835, Ebenezer Kendall gave his attention to the erection of a woolen-mill farther down the stream. This building was about 60 x 35 feet, two stories, and basement, and was designed for a three-set mill. It was completed about 1837, and was first occupied by Simeon Wadleigh for the manufacture of satinets. He was succeeded, about 1840, by Ladd & Buswell, and they by Augustus M. Sleeper. In 1845, Clark & Waterworth were in business here, and they were followed, in 1850, by Nat. G. Chase, and he, by Stephen Philbrick, in 1852. In 1860, Lucius C. Alexander and Don P. Alexander came from Nashua and manufactured satinets till 1864, when they were succeeded by Henry S. Beckford and his son, Benjamin P., who engaged in the manufacture of frocking. In December, 1865, Lieut. W. A. Beckford commenced the manufacture of yarns, using one set of cards for the purpose, while his father and brother were making frocking. In 1867, Dow & Renue succeeded the Beckfords and continued the making of frocking, and this business was continued by A. & W. H. Williams, in 1869, or a little later. Frank M. Beckford manufactured yarns here in the early eighties. The mill was destroyed by fire Apr. 17, 1886, and the privilege was purchased by Train, Smith & Co.

About 1845, North Bristol, then generally known as Slab City, enjoyed its greatest prosperity. Indeed, it vied with Bristol village in the amount of business done. In addition to the industries above named, all of which were in full operation and giving employment to forty or fifty hands, there was in operation on the south side of the street, east of the bridge over the west channel, a cabinet shop operated by James Clough, a deaf mute. The power for this shop was taken from a dam across the west channel. Opposite, on the north side of the highway, was the blacksmith shop of Horatio Kelley, and a cooper shop. There were three dwelling-houses on the south side of the highway between the two streams, a two-story boarding-house on the east side of the highway opposite the saw-mill, a small dwelling-house just below the grist-mill, a barn in the middle of what is now Lake street just south of the first bridge, and a shoe shop, kept by Isaac Allen, that stood on the side of the bluff near the barn. Of all these buildings not one remains, and none have taken their places. The causes that contributed



to the wiping out of the business of this hamlet were the fact that the coming of the railroad to Bristol village made that a more important center of trade and business, and especially the purchase of the saw-mill, grist-mill, and other property by the Winnepesaukee Lake Cotton and Woolen Manf. company, the only object of this company being the control of the water of the lake. But little business was done at the saw-mill or grist-mill after this company came into possession, and these mills were destroyed by fire, about 1860, while operated by Thomas P. Nutting. To-day, hardly a stone remains to mark their site. At the west end of the street, there are still standing and occupied about a dozen residences, most of which were erected during the period of the business prosperity of this hamlet.

On the completion of the stone dam at the outlet of the lake, a saw-mill was erected at that point that was operated by those who had charge of the dam. The two-story house here was formerly one of the three houses that stood on the south side of the street at North Bristol village. Thomas Muzzey occupied this house for some years, had charge of the dam and operated the mill. He was succeeded by J. Rendall Sleeper, who continued in charge till the mill was removed a few years ago.

#### MOORE'S MILLS

The hamlet called Moore's mills is located on the Pemigewasset river, in the northeastern part of the township. Enos Brown and Joseph Brown erected a saw-mill and grist-mill here in 1829. To turn the water into the flume of the mill they erected a wing dam, but this arrangement was unsatisfactory. Enos Brown sold his interest to Rufus G. Lewis, of New Hampton, and the new firm built a dam of logs across the stream. This dam stood a year or two and was then carried down the stream by a freshet. Nicholas Dolloff succeeded Mr. Lewis about 1832, and built a new dam which was partially destroyed by an ice freshet five years later. The dam was repaired and work continued. Associated with Nicholas Dolloff were Joseph Brown, Joseph Moore, and Daniel S. Mason.

The saw-mill was equipped with three upright saws, a shingle-mill and a clapboard-mill, and was run day and night a portion of the time. From 500,000 to 800,000 feet of lumber were sawed annually, nearly all of which was sent down river in rafts to market. For some years, sash and doors were also manufactured here. The grist-mill had several run of stone and was operated for some years by Ariel H. George, who was later a miller for many years in Bristol village.

When business was at its height employment was given to about twenty-five hands; there were eight houses near-by, and the population of the hamlet numbered seventy-five; a large school was sustained, and Maj. Daniel Tirrell kept a country



store. But little sawing was done after the railroad reached Bristol village and, about 1850, work entirely ceased. To-day, three or four farmhouses are all that remain of this bustling community.

#### PROFILE FALLS

Profile Falls is a hamlet on Smith's river, about two miles south of Bristol village. It was formerly spoken of as the foot of the mountain, sometimes as South Bristol. Soon after Byron B. Tobie became a resident here, in the early nineties, he discovered an excellent profile on one of the ledges and accordingly named the falls and the village, Profile Falls. The name was euphonious and appropriate and kindly received by the public. Mr. Tobie opened a store here, secured the establishment of a post-office, and was the postmaster. The store and post-office were discontinued when he left town in May, 1900. The hamlet now consists of a schoolhouse, an excelsior mill, and seven or eight dwellings.

Profile Falls is a part of Lot 71, First Division. This lot embraced the falls on Smith's river, and was deeded to Maj. John Tolford on condition that he should erect a saw-mill and grist-mill on this stream within six years from May 19, 1767. Joshua Tolford appears to have succeeded John Tolford in the ownership of this lot and to have settled here as early as 1769. He erected mills as early as specified in the grant, being taxed for mills in the first tax-list of the town, in 1773.

The first bridge across Smith's river spanned the stream at the head of the falls. Just west of the north end of this bridge stood, in the early days of the town, a schoolhouse, and west of the schoolhouse the first mills — a saw-mill and a grist-mill.

About 1780, John Smith became the owner of these mills, and later added a clothing- and carding-mill, the first of the kind in this section. There is a tradition that the first mills and the first bridge were swept away by a freshet; but, if so, all must have been rebuilt on the old sites, for the bridge was destroyed by fire about 1800, and the mills that stood near-by were in operation till the freshet of 1826, when they were carried down stream. At this time, they were owned by Robert Smith, a son of John Smith, who rebuilt all except the clothing-mill, but on new sites. The grist-mill was erected where is now the saw-mill, or excelsior-mill; half way up the hill, near the canal, was located the clapboard-mill, and above this was placed the saw-mill. The dam to turn the water into the canal was across the stream at the head of the falls, just below the site of the first bridge. To remove a ledge when constructing the canal, huge fires were built on it, heating the rock, and then water was poured on, thus causing it to crumble. The first shingle-mill in this section was put into the clapboard-mill, and its automatic work was thought to be something wonderful.

The grist-mill contained three run of stone, a wheat bolt and a rye bolt, for in those days all the flour used was made from wheat or rye grown in this section. The grist-mill was in operation as late as 1843. Robert Smith continued to own and operate these mills till 1840, or later; but John Hastings operated the saw-mill from 1830 till 1835. From 1835, the saw-mill was operated a year or two at a time by J. T. McMurphy, Abel Batchelder, Levi H. Sleeper, Ebenezer Wells, Capt. Moses Sanborn, and others. It was last used in 1843.

From 1834 till 1836, another shingle-mill was operated by Charles Buntin and Samuel Calley, in a building that stood near the present bridge over Smith's river.<sup>1</sup>

John Merrill and Ephraim Merrill had a tannery on the flat a few rods west of the present highway. The remains of the pits can still be seen. This tannery was established about 1803, and was, without doubt, the first tannery in Bristol. In March, 1833, it was advertised for sale in the *New Hampshire Patriot* by Joshua Smith, and was described as "a tan house and yard, good water privilege and farm, a few rods from grist-mill, saw-mill, shingle-mill, and clapboard-mill."

Eastman's saw-mill, so called, situated a mile west of Profile Falls, was built about 1858, by Enoch and Henry Rolfe, of Hill. Ezekiel Eastman was taxed for this property from 1859 till 1863. Frederick H. Bartlett then became the owner of this property and the mills at Profile Falls. About 1870, he took the Eastman mill down and used the material in the construction of the present saw-mill at Profile Falls. He disposed of the old grist-mill by setting it on fire and allowing the flames to consume it.

Elijah Sanborn succeeded Mr. Bartlett, being first taxed for this property in 1873, and he continued to operate the saw-mill a portion of each year till succeeded by B. B. Tobie. Marshall Ballou manufactured picker-sticks here from 1877 till 1885, when he removed to the village. Since November, 1898, the saw-mill has been utilized by Solon S. Southard for the manufacture of excelsior.

#### OTHER MANUFACTURES

Theophilus Sanborn had a tannery, as early as 1806, on the

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<sup>1</sup>This mill was operated by the waste water from the grist-mill, and the owners of the two mills got into a difficulty over its use. Robert Smith attempted to turn the water in such a way as to wash away the dam that turned the water to Buntin & Calley's mill. This caused a personal encounter, during which Smith struck Calley, and Calley ducked Smith into the dam and held his head under water till Mr. Buntin, fearful of results, interfered. Mr. Smith was a justice of the peace, and fearing that Mr. Buntin might bring an action against him, forestalled him by entering a complaint against himself for assault. He heard the case as justice and fined himself one dollar.

east side of the highway, opposite his residence on New Chester mountain, just above where Mrs. John W. Sanborn now resides. The bark was ground by horse-power.

Jonathan Merrill and his son, Morris, had a small tannery in the ravine west of the highway, near the residence of the latter, where the late James A. Curtice resided.

Between 1815 and 1820, there was a saw-mill on Danforth's brook, near the Danforth house, and about the same time Joseph Brown had a cabinet-shop near the present residence of Solon Dolloff.

Jeremiah Bean engaged in the manufacture of pottery on Hemlock brook, in the thirties.

In a small building that stood on the west side of South Main street, near the stone watering-trough, Wells Forbes made, in the early forties, wooden clocks. Later, between 1844 and 1848, seraphines were made here by Eaton & Crockett, Eaton & Boynton, and by Cyrus P. Eaton.

Elijah Sanborn manufactured bricks at Profile Falls for several years.

In the late forties, Thomas Ordway had a brick yard west of Newfound river, north of Willow street.

From 1848 till 1851, N. W. Ingraham had a cooper shop on Lake street, near Edward P. Sawyer's residence, and manufactured hogshead staves for market.

Eben Seaver manufactured carriages on Lake street, from May, 1884, till his death in 1898.

## CHAPTER XXXII

### MERCHANTILE HOUSES AND OTHER INDUSTRIES

Trade is the golden girdle of the globe.

—*Cowper.*

#### EMERSON'S BLOCK

The first habitation in the vicinity of Central square was a log cabin, erected in 1769, at the corner of Central square and Spring street, as a home for the miller who tended the first grist-mill in town. A more pretentious dwelling was erected later, which was occupied by Moses Lewis as early as 1790. Soon after, he opened, in a building just north of his dwelling-house, the first store in Bristol, and here he continued in trade for twenty years. In 1797, he erected a two-story residence, which now constitutes the second and third stories of Emerson's block.

This building was used as a residence till about 1869, when George H. Moore opened a shoe store in the two front rooms. He was followed, in 1871, by William George, who occupied these rooms two or three years. In 1879, George G. Brown, who then owned this property, raised the building, put a story under it and added a French roof. It was then used as a hotel by Mr. Brown. In the north stand Smith D. Fellows was in trade as a dealer in stoves and tinware, from about 1886 till 1889. E. R. Whittier had a bakery here from 1893-'97, and he was followed by William E. Heath, by A. H. Worthley, and by Mrs. Nettie B. Cummings.

The south stand was used as a boot and shoe store, 1889 till 1891, by Austin H. Roby, who was succeeded in the same business by Oscar W. Rice, 1891-'94; by M. M. Harriman & Co., by H. W. T. Norris & Co., by George H. Dodge, and by Frank E. Vaughan, who is now in trade here.

The basement was used for many years as a meat market by Levi Locke and by Locke & Jewett. Dr. Arthur V. Doud has an elegant suite of rooms in the second story, south side.

#### THE ICHABOD C. BARTLETT STORE

Ichabod C. Bartlett came to Bristol in 1800, and soon after opened a store on the east side of South Main street, where later stood the leading tavern in Bristol, and where now is Frank W. Bingham's harness shop. This location was then in the town of New Chester. Tradition says that Mr. Bartlett had only a

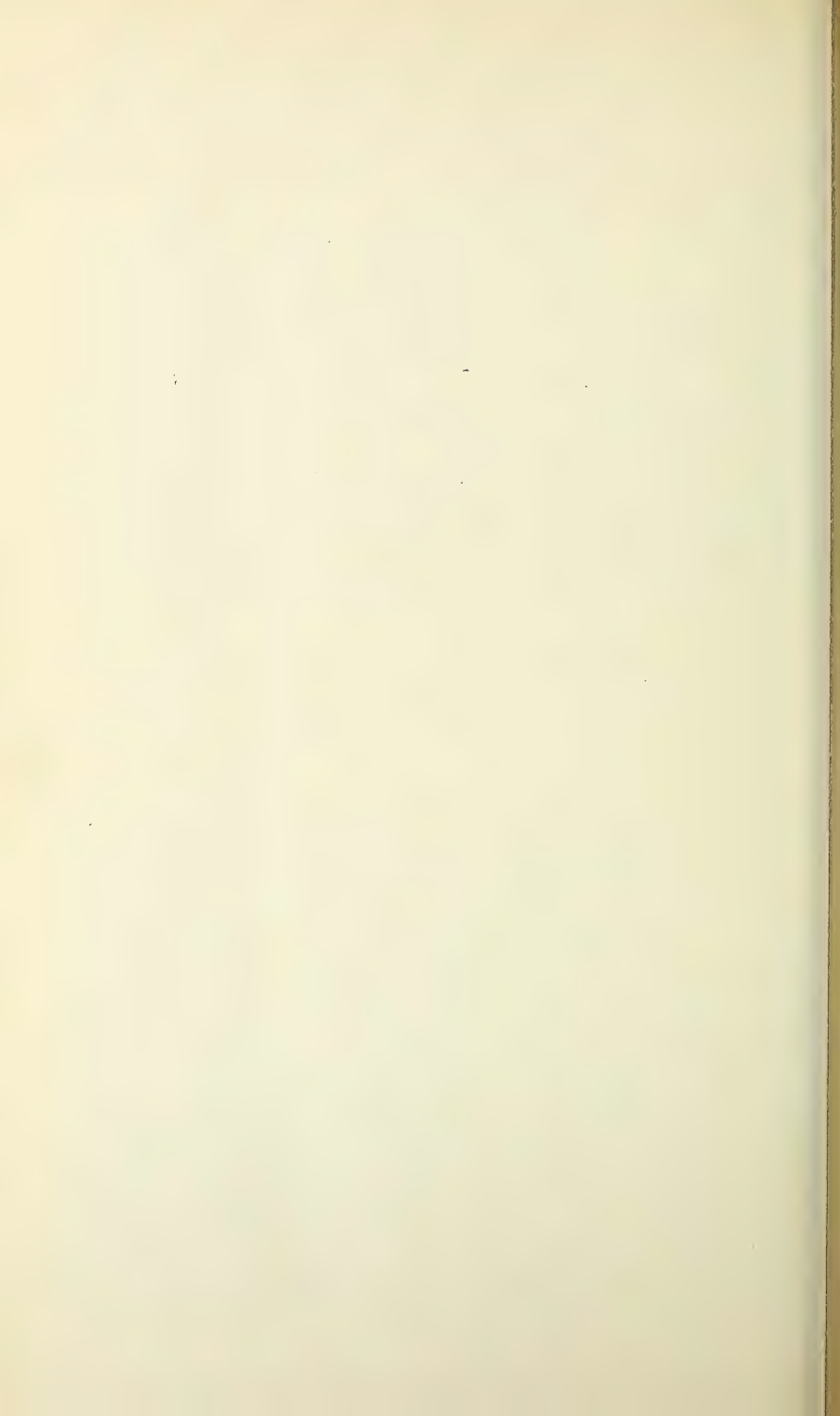




CENTRAL SQUARE — WEST SIDE. OLD HOME DAY PARADE



CENTRAL SQUARE — EAST SIDE. OLD HOME DAY PARADE



small stock of dry-goods and small wares, but, in April, 1801, he was taxed for \$100 stock in trade, which in those days must have represented a considerable amount. In November, 1801, he married a daughter of Col. Peter Sleeper, and probably commenced life at once on the Bridgewater side of the river, for in April, 1802, he was again taxed for his stock of goods in New Chester, but as a non-resident. In the summer of 1802, he evidently erected his first store in what is now Central square, as he was not again taxed in New Chester. This store was a wooden building and stood directly in front of the present brick store. It was 32 x 18 feet, eight feet posted, and was lighted by a window in the east end and one in front, each having two sashes of twelve lights of 7 x 9 glass. It had an ell 12 x 20 feet. Here Mr. Bartlett did a large and constantly increasing business. In 1822, he erected the brick part of the present store.

Mr. Bartlett continued in trade alone till 1827, when his son, Levi, became associated with him and business was continued under the firm name of I. C. & L. Bartlett till 1833 or 1834, when Gustavus Bartlett entered the firm, and the firm name became I. C. Bartlett & Co. Col. Solomon S. Sleeper, who afterwards became a merchant prince in Boston, was a clerk in this store about this time. He went to New York in 1837 but, a year later, returned and purchased the interest of I. C. Bartlett and Levi Bartlett, and the firm name became Bartlett & Sleeper. In April, 1842, Cyrus Taylor, who had been a clerk here since the spring of 1836, purchased the interest of Col. Sleeper and the firm became Bartlett & Taylor, and so continued till 1860. In 1858, Ichabod C. Bartlett, son of Gustavus, had succeeded his father in the firm. In 1860, Mr. Taylor bought the interest of Ichabod C. Bartlett and became the sole owner of the store, and at the same time became the owner of the real estate. From 1869 till 1876, Henry A. Taylor was associated with his father, when the firm name was C. Taylor & Son, and for one year C. G. M. Bond was a partner. Mr. Taylor conducted this business, besides having large interests in other directions, till December, 1892, when he sold to Kemp & Johnson. Mr. Taylor thus had a continuous service in this store of fifty-six years.

Messrs. Kemp & Johnson came from Vermont. They were experienced men in the business and worthy successors of the men who had preceded them; but their business career was short, both dying suddenly within three years. They were succeeded by Daniel B. Weymouth, of Andover, and Cephas H. Fowler, of Penacook, who continued business for a time under the firm name of Fowler & Weymouth. Mr. Fowler soon retired and was succeeded by Stewart I. Brown, of Penacook, and the firm of Weymouth, Brown & Co. continues the business. This firm still does a very large business in all branches

usually kept at a country store and enjoys the high reputation for fair and honorable dealing that has been accorded to all its predecessors.

#### WHITE'S BLOCK

The first building known to have stood on the site of the present brick block at the corner of Central square and Pleasant street was the two-story dwelling that now stands on the west side of Merrimack street south of Spring. This building was moved to its present site, and the present brick block erected in 1848, it being first opened for business the first of July of that year, the day the first regular train was run over the Franklin and Bristol railroad. As first constructed it had a pitch roof, and in the attic was a hall used for meetings of the Sons of Temperance, for public lectures, dramatic entertainments, and other purposes. This building was gutted by fire on the morning of July 4, 1861, and when rebuilt the present flat roof was put on.

John Tolford, Jr., was in trade here as early as 1815, and was licensed as a retailer of spirituous liquors. He continued in trade till his death, in April, 1823. His business was closed by Ezekiel Webster.

Thomas Dunlap was in trade here as early as 1820, but his name does not appear on the tax-list at a later date. James Chase and Jonathan C. Prescott were in business here in May, 1821, as manufacturers of boots and shoes for the wholesale trade, as appears by an advertisement in the *New Hampshire Patriot*; but as they were not taxed in April, 1821, or April, 1822, it seems that their business career commenced and ended between these two dates.

Solomon Cavis and Philip Webster, under the firm name of Webster & Cavis, were evidently the successors of John Tolford, Jr. They commenced business in this block in May, 1823, as dealers in "English and West India goods." Mr. Webster retired about 1827, and Mr. Cavis continued the business till the early thirties, when he removed to the Cavis block. William L. Chase was in the boot and shoe trade in this block from about 1833 till March, 1844, when he removed to Lyme. A part of this time, N. S. Berry was associated with him.

Hon. Nathaniel G. Upton had a law office in this block in 1828, and N. B. Bryant opened a law office here in 1848. Mr. Bryant was succeeded by Lewis W. Fling, in 1852, who has occupied the same rooms for half a century.

Warren White and Reuben C. Bean were in business here under the firm name of Bean & White for the manufacture of boots and shoes, from the time Wm. L. Chase retired till 1847. They employed twelve or fifteen hands inside the building, and gave work to many outside. Mr. White continued the business



after the retirement of Mr. Bean from the firm, Mr. Bean continuing in his employ as manager.

Warren White was succeeded, in 1854, by Marshall W. White and David P. Prescott, under the firm name of White & Prescott, who continued the business till 1861. They had two teams on the road jobbing boots and shoes made here. In 1861, Warren White again assumed this business with Mr. Prescott as manager. In 1869 or 1870, Mr. Prescott became proprietor and kept a shoe store for ten years or more. About 1880, Cyrus Taylor and John S. Conner opened a clothing store and continued for four years under the firm name of Conner & Co.

Marshall W. White first opened a jewelry store in the south stand of this block in 1850 or early part of 1851. He sold soon after to J. C. Lovejoy, who continued the business a short time and then removed to Manchester. Mr. White, after spending a year in Concord, completing his trade, returned to Bristol and prosecuted the watch repairing and jewelry business in the north stand in connection with his company business spoken of above. About 1860 or '61, he reopened his jewelry store in connection with a drug store in the south stand. About 1874, he sold the drug business to Ingalls & Co., of Concord, and removed his jewelry business to the room above. Messrs. Ingalls & Co. continued the drug business till the spring of 1877, when they retired, and Charles H. Dickinson came into this stand from the Rollins block.

In 1883, Mr. Dickinson and Robert A. Horner purchased the boot and shoe department of William George, in the Rollins block, and removed the goods to Mr. Dickinson's store in this block. Jan. 1, 1884, they purchased the stock of goods of J. S. Conner & Co., in the north stand, and continued the boot and shoe and clothing business under the name of Dickinson & Horner, occupying the entire first story. In 1889, Mr. Horner retired, and Mr. Dickinson is still carrying on the business. Thus, Mr. Dickinson has been in the clothing business in Bristol over thirty-two years. He carries a large line of goods in both departments, and has an extensive trade. He also engages in lumbering and other business.

#### CAVIS BLOCK

The first building on the west side of Central square was a blacksmith shop, on the site of the present Cavis block. This was erected by Edmond Brown as early as 1797. Mr. Brown was then a young, unmarried man and boarded at Moses Sleeper's tavern. The building had two stories, and Timothy Eastman had later a hatter's shop in the second story. In September, 1810, Moses Lewis was the owner, and he sold to Timothy Eastman for the annual consideration of one silk hat of the value of seven dollars. Mr. Eastman sold to Richard H. Sawyer, in

April, 1823, for \$250, and, two days later, Mr. Sawyer sold to Abbott Lovejoy, who was then in business as a blacksmith in Alexandria. Mr. Lovejoy removed to Bristol and prosecuted his business at this stand till May, 1832, when he sold to Joseph Noyes, and removed to Central street. Commencing with 1829, Mr. Lovejoy had a partner, and the firm name was Lovejoy & Webster.

Joseph Noyes erected the first store on this site. Walter H. Sleeper was the first trader here, being in trade in 1832; but his business career was short, and he was succeeded by Solomon Cavis and Sherburn S. Worthen, under the firm name of Cavis & Worthen, about February, 1834, at which time Mr. Cavis owned the real estate. In 1837, Mr. Cavis sold to N. S. Berry, and the firm became Worthen & Berry, who continued the business. Solomon Cavis succeeded them in 1839, and prosecuted the business alone till about 1853, when his son, George M. Cavis, became his partner, and the firm name was S. Cavis & Son, till 1861, when Solomon Cavis retired. George M. Cavis continued the business till April, 1884. At this time, Horace T. Alexander commenced trade here, and Mr. Cavis retired from the active work of the store, though still retaining an interest in the business, that he might devote his whole time to his duties as treasurer of the savings bank. Mr. Alexander prosecuted the business six years, till Oct. 1, 1888. He was succeeded by Karl G. and George B. Cavis, under the firm name of Cavis Brothers, who are still in trade here, doing a large and successful business in dry-goods, groceries, and hardware. They are worthy successors of their father and grandfather.

The store built by Joseph Noyes was destroyed in the great fire of July 4, 1861, and the present brick block was erected soon after. This was greatly damaged by the fire of Dec. 7, 1871.

#### THE ROLLINS BLOCK

In 1830, a small, one-story building stood where is now the Rollins block. Here Reuben Hosmer lived and had a hatter's shop, using the ground between this building and Cavis's store for a garden. In 1843, Ebenezer Eaton was in trade here, and his goods were assessed for taxation at \$100. He removed this building to Summer street, and erected a larger building in its place. Here Orren B. Davis kept a country store from about 1847 till 1852, when he sold his goods at auction, and moved to Franklin.

James T. Sanborn and Joseph F. Rollins were in trade here from 1855 till the fire of July 4, 1861; and Henry A. Randolph had a tailor's shop in an addition on the south, at the time of the fire. Mr. Rollins rebuilt and continued in trade till the spring of 1864, when he was succeeded by George F. Buttrick and John

R. Sumner, under the firm name of Buttrick & Sumner. Three years later, they were succeeded by Farrar & Boardman, who continued in business till the fire of December, 1871.

The present block was erected in 1872, by Leston L. Rollins, and the first occupant in the north stand was Oscar L. Rand, who kept a grocery store for two years. He was succeeded by J. N. & C. H. Dickinson, who were in the clothing business for two years, after which C. H. Dickinson continued the business alone, till he removed to White's block, about 1877. At this time, Miss M. M. Mullen, who had occupied the south stand for many years for a millinery store, moved out, and William George came from Emerson's block, and took possession of the entire first floor. He devoted the north room to dry- and fancy-goods and the south room to boots and shoes. This continued till March 1, 1883, when R. A. Horner and C. H. Dickinson purchased his boot and shoe department, and removed the goods to White's block. The vacant store was taken possession of by Alfred P. Harriman, who engaged in the shoe trade and continued till 1888, when he was succeeded by Austin H. Roby, who removed to the Emerson block. This stand was again absorbed by Mr. George, and he has continued to occupy the entire floor. He carries a large stock of dry- and fancy-goods, toys, fishing tackle, jewelry, and other lines of goods.

#### WEST-SIDE DRUG STORE

The first building erected on the site of the west-side drug store was the small workshop that formerly stood in the yard of the A. J. Crockett residence at the junction of Lake and Pleasant streets. In 1827, Squires Brown had a store in this building where he kept for sale confectionery, a few drugs, and intoxicating liquors. Two years later, William L. Chase had here what was probably the first shoe store in Central square. He did not long remain, however, but went to more pretentious quarters in the block that stood on the corner of Central square and Pleasant street.

A larger building took the place of the one removed, and here, from 1831 till 1836, Albert Pearson had a hatter's shop, while Theodore N. Patterson had a tailor's shop from about 1844 till 1848. He also kept a few drugs for sale. He was succeeded by Jacob N. Darling, who continued the tailoring business for ten years. H. W. Favor and Cyrus Taylor were in the clothing business here about three years, under the firm name of H. W. Favor & Co., and G. G. Brown & Co. followed in the same line till 1867, and they were succeeded by H. A. Randolph, and he by J. N. Dickinson. Charles H. Dickinson became associated with this business about 1870, and it was continued under the firm name of J. N. Dickinson & Co. till the fire on the night of Dec. 7, 1871.



The present block was erected in 1872 and, from its completion, has been used as a drug store. Fowler & Co. located here, coming from the Blake block on South Main street. They were followed, about 1880, by Dr. J. W. Preston, and, four years later, he was succeeded by Mallard & Whitton, and they by C. H. Whitton & Co. Mr. Whitton met a tragic fate by his own hand, June 7, 1890, and Charles A. Nelson became proprietor. Mr. Nelson was followed by O. L. Wicks, and he by Fowler & Co., who are still the proprietors here. In the second story Dearborn & Chase have had their law office for some years.

#### TIN-SHOP SITE

The first building on the west side of Central square next to the bridge was erected about 1850, and Hiram W. Kendall, a dealer in stoves and tinware, was probably the first occupant. The first floor has been used for the same business till now. S. C. Saunders was in trade here about 1855-'61; David S. Kidder, 1861-'66; Bingham & George, 1867; A. W. Bingham and Fred W. Bingham, 1867-'85; French & Merrill, 1885-'88; O. B. French, from 1888 till his death, in October, 1902, and now Emmons & Dolloff.

The second story has been used as photographers' rooms. Among those doing business here were Levi D. Johnson; C. C. Gardner, 1867-'74; L. E. Lindsey, 1875; P. W. Tennant, 1877-'79; A. B. Harlow, 1880; P. A. Ellsworth, 1880; Fred H. Briggs, 1881-'90; Nicholas & Pressey, 1892; W. W. Nicholas, 1893-'95; F. H. Briggs, 1898; H. W. Rich; Frank G. Chaffin, 1899-1900; B. J. Whitcomb till 1902.

#### TUKEY'S BLOCK

Joseph Fowler learned the saddle- and harness-maker's trade of John Nash, in New Hampton, and came to Bristol in 1808. He probably worked at his trade from the time of his first settlement in Bristol, and, as early as 1818, he was occupying a small building next to the bridge from Central square, where is now Chas. H. Tukey's block. This first building, which the old people called a "ten-footer," was occupied by Joseph Fowler till he removed from town, in 1825. In 1829, his son, Oscar F. Fowler, returned to Bristol and took up his father's work at his father's former place of business, and here he continued in business for nearly half a century. Reuben C. Bean was in the shoe business in Bristol in 1838, and quite likely in this building with O. F. Fowler; but be this as it may, in 1841, he purchased the real estate and erected, on this site, a building about twice the size of the old, two stories high. On its completion, Mr. Fowler occupied the room next to the bridge, while Mr. Bean had a shoe shop in the east end. In November, 1843, Mr. Bean sold the real estate to Mr. Fowler, and went



into business with Warren White. Mr. Fowler became postmaster soon after, and had the post-office in the east room till 1861. In 1862, Abram Dolloff opened, where had been the post-office, the first meat market in town. In 1873, Mr. Fowler sold the west half of this building to E. E. Clark and the east half to C. H. Tukey, and both continued the harness business. Mr. Clark sold to S. W. Call, and Mr. Call had a tin-shop here for a time, and then sold to Mr. Tukey, who has continued the harness business till the present. In 1901, this building was enlarged to its present size. Mary M. Mullen had a millinery store in the east room after removing from the Rollins block, and Stephen Valla has had a fruit store here for the last two years.

#### ABEL BLOCK

In April, 1817, F. J. Tay deeded to Robert Smith a blacksmith shop standing on the site of the Abel block. It was described as a blacksmith-shop which he "lately erected standing in the old highway near the turnpike bridge." In November, 1818, Robert Smith sold this property to Thomas C. Angel, when it was spoken of as standing between a saddler's shop and the house of Moses Lewis.

This blacksmith shop early gave way to a long, low-posted, one-story dwelling. To this dwelling John S. Bryant moved, on the destruction of his home, in 1829, where the bank block now stands. Here A. J. Smith resided for many years and had a jewelry store in the east end.

The present building was erected by Mr. Smith before the Civil war, and by him sold, about 1870, to William H. Abel, who, some years later, put in a basement and added a French roof. The post-office was in the west room from 1861 till 1875. Since then, this room has been used most of the time as a millinery store. Miss Katherine F. George was in trade here from about 1886 till 1893; Mrs. Lizzie E. Webster followed her, and Mrs. Emma B. Freshney is now doing business here.

In 1866, Ingalls & George had a restaurant, or fruit store, in the center room, which has been used as such till now: By D. P. Sargent, 1871-'72; John H. Brown, 1873-'75; R. A. Horner, 1875-'82; C. H. Calley, 1882-'87; and since then by D. M. Calley.

Mary A. Woolson had a millinery store in this block 1859-'64. J. N. Dickinson was in trade here as a merchant tailor in the east stand, Charles Blackstone had a music room here for a time, and for the last twenty-one years John J. Bryson has had here a hair-dressing room.

Solon Dolloff had a meat market in the west basement for many years till succeeded by Geo. A. Dow, in 1902. In the east basement, N. Giguere had a fish market. He was followed

by G. A. Ballard, by R. W. Bennett, and by Mrs. E. L. Walker. A Chinaman now has a laundry here.

#### FOWLER'S BLOCK — EAST SIDE

This block was built by Joseph Cass, about 1848. The north stand was first opened as a drug store Sept. 9, 1848, by Dr. Moody C. Sawyer and Dr. Hadley B. Fowler. In 1855, John M. Cilley, who had been serving here for some time as a clerk, purchased the building and continued the drug business till his death, in 1865. Charles M. Cilley, his brother, who became connected with the business in 1863, continued till April, 1869, when he was succeeded by Edwin S. Foster, who continued till 1872. Dr. D. E. Wells was then proprietor for a year or so, when Mr. Foster again took charge of the business and closed it out the following year. Dodge & Dolloff were in the meat business here in 1878-'79; Solon Dolloff continued the same in 1880-'81; F. M. Beckford had a variety store here in 1883, and Arthur W. Prescott had a variety store here in 1884. In 1886, it was again fitted up as a drug store, this time by Fowler & Co., who continued in trade, at the same time operating the drug store on the west side of Central square.

In the south stand, D. E. Everett had a harness shop for ten years previous to entering the army in 1862; Levi L. Bates had a shoe store here in 1870-'75; followed by Herbert & George and by Tilton & George. Frank W. Bingham had a harness shop from January, 1878, till 1883, when he removed to South Main street, where he is still in business. Charlotte Dyer had a millinery store here in 1884-'87. She was followed by Mrs. S. M. Ballou, and she by Mrs. Lisette S. Ballou, who is still in trade.

#### ROBIE'S BLOCK

Robie's block on Pleasant street was erected by Charles Boardman, in 1872. After its completion, Mr. Boardman kept a country store in the east stand till October, 1888, when he sold to Alexander & George. Charles E. Davis succeeded Charles A. George, Jan. 1, 1895, and the business has since been continued under the firm name of Alexander & Davis. The west stand was occupied by R. W. Musgrove as a printing-office from June, 1874, till January, 1884. The Lougee Brothers, clothiers, of Laconia, were in trade here in 1888 and '89, and A. W. Homans was in business at the same stand at the same time as a jeweler.

Apr. 2, 1889, this building was gutted by fire, and was soon after purchased and rebuilt by G. A. Robie. Since its completion, the west stand has been occupied by Mr. Robie for a furniture store and telephone exchange.

After Mr. Boardman sold his business, in 1888, he engaged in the furniture business in the basement of this block for a few

months. Abram Dolloff had a meat market in this basement from 1890 till he sold, in June, 1899, to W. L. Dow, who continues the business.

#### POST-OFFICE BLOCK

The site of the post-office block was occupied by a blacksmith shop from 1806 to 1868. The blacksmith business was carried on here by R. H. Sawyer, from 1823 till 1844. Peter A. Sleeper succeeded Mr. Sawyer, Kimball Whitney succeeded to the business in 1847, and William G. Gould was here in 1849. George A. Draper came to Bristol in 1867. He purchased this property, remodeled the shop into a dwelling and, later, moved it to where it now stands, back of the post-office block, and commenced the erection of post-office block, when he met with an accident that caused his death in June, 1874. The block was completed by his administrators, and first occupied by the post-office in 1875, and is still used as such. In the lobby of the office, William A. Buswell had a jewelry store from 1875 till 1879. He was succeeded by Anson B. Pray, who was in business till 1902, and during that time served as assistant postmaster.

The south stand in this block was occupied as a millinery store by Eaton & Buttrick in 1875-'76; Buttrick & Knight, 1877-'80; A. A. Buttrick & Co., 1880-'84, and by the Bristol Savings bank in 1884-'93. Since 1895, Benjamin C. Gray and others occupied this stand for a barber shop.

#### BLAKE BLOCK

The Blake block has been occupied for mercantile purposes since 1867, when Blake & Haynes opened a country store in the north stand. Mr. Haynes retired two years later, and Mr. Blake continued till 1872, when he was succeeded by Lucius W. Hammond, who was in trade till his death, in 1882. His son, George H. Hammond, has continued the business.

In the south stand A. D. Thurston had a furniture store in 1868; I. B. Gordon, a printing-office in 1869, and, in 1870, Fowler & Co. opened a drug store and continued till 1872. O. B. Ray was merchant tailor here from about 1874 till 1887, after which he continued business for several years on Lake street. In 1889-'90, Charles Boardman had a furniture store here. From the fall of 1896 till the summer of 1902, J. W. McIntire was merchant tailor here, and A. C. Phipps & Co. have occupied the front part of the same stand as dealers in clothing and gent's furnishing goods from 1897 till now.

#### BANK SITE

The bank site was apparently first occupied for building purposes in 1819. March 24, 1820, Moses H. Bradley sold to Seth Daniels, and, at this time, there was a barn on this site and a "house which said Daniels has lately hauled and removed

onto said premises." In 1824, I. C. Bartlett was the owner. He sold to John Willoughby, and he in turn sold to John S. Bryant, Esq., two years later. Mr. Bryant built "a large colonial house" in place of the old one, kept hotel here for a while, and then carried on the cabinet-maker's business in the second story of the ell. These buildings were destroyed by fire Oct. 15, 1829, and, in 1832, Colonel Bryant built the residence that was removed to make way for the bank block. George M. Phelps, Esq., purchased this property, Oct. 13, 1834, and he was succeeded in March, 1835, by Samuel H. Stevens, Esq., who sold to John C. Blaisdell, Feb. 20, 1847. Mr. Blaisdell built, as an addition, the two-story house now standing next south of the M. E. church, in the first story of which Mrs. Blaisdell opened the first millinery store in Bristol. Oct. 29, 1866, Mr. Blaisdell sold to S. K. Mason, Esq., and Dec. 8, 1891, Mrs. S. K. Mason sold to the Bristol Savings bank. The buildings were sold at auction March 15, 1892, and purchased by Thomas T. Drake, and by him removed and refitted into tenements on the old cemetery lot on North Main street. The present bank block was built by the Bristol Savings Bank corporation, M. W. White, W. A. Berry, and B. M. Ames, of the trustees, being a building committee. Ground was broken in April, 1892, and the block was completed in the fall of 1893.

This building is three stories high, built of brick, with Concord granite trimmings, 250,000 bricks being used in its construction. It faces forty-two feet on Central square and sixty-two feet on North Main street, and stands fifty-two feet high. It is massive and substantial and is an ornament to the town. Its cost was rising \$25,000.

The banking rooms occupy the larger part of the ground floor, with entrance on North Main street. Adjoining the banking rooms on the north is a fine store occupied since December, 1894, by Charles E. Rounds, who carries a large stock of dry and fancy-goods, and has an extensive trade.

The second story is occupied by Dr. George H. Calley and Dr. Channing Bishop. Dr. Calley has the suite of rooms facing North Main street for living rooms, and the suite on the north for an office, while Dr. Bishop has the suite facing Central square for an office. These are all elegant apartments. The whole of the third story is occupied by Union Lodge, No. 79, A. F. and A. M. The banking rooms are finished in oak, all the remaining rooms in cypress. The whole building is heated with steam and lighted with electricity.

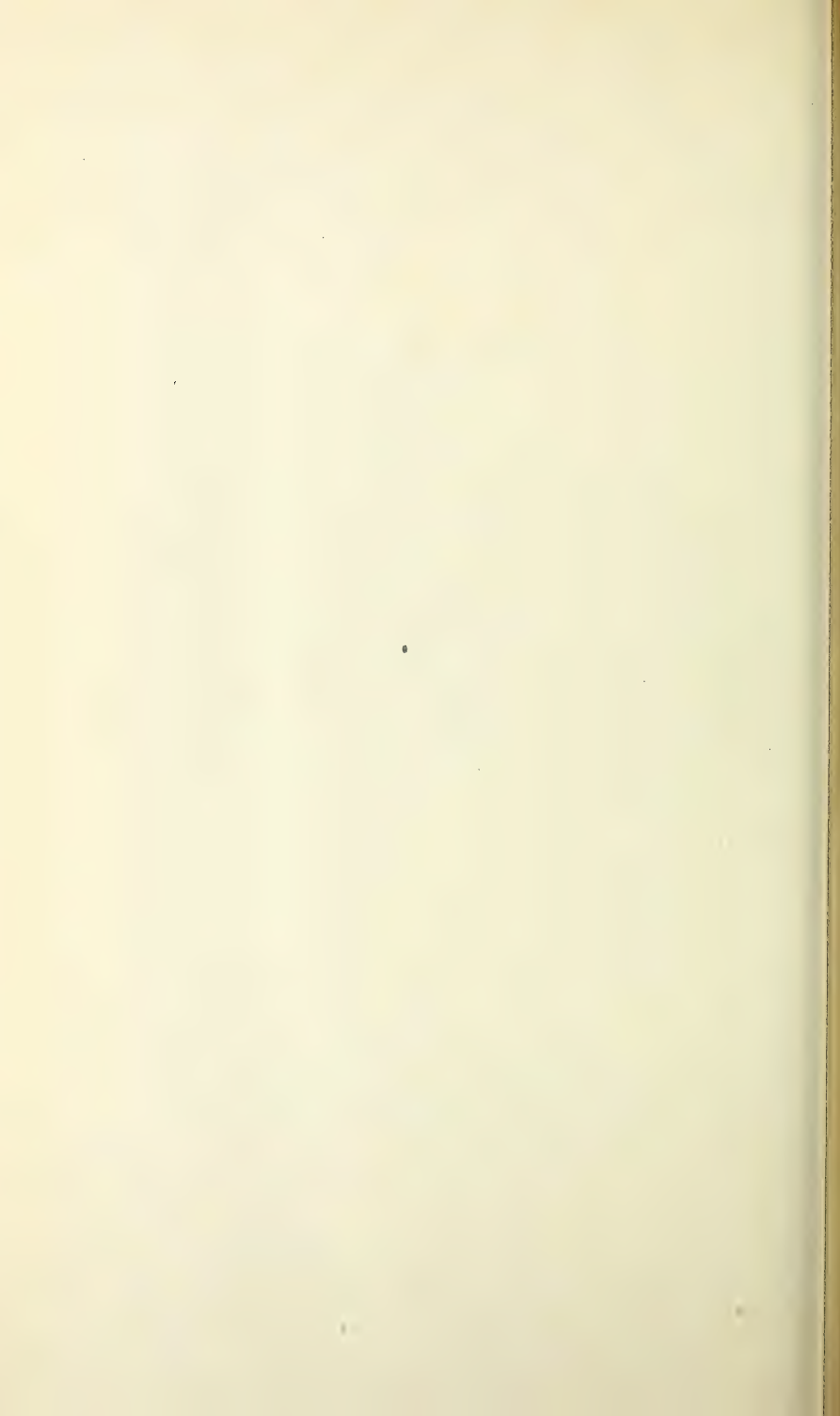
#### BRISTOL CREAMERY

The Bristol Creamery association was organized under the laws of the state in May, 1893. Its capital stock was \$2,500, divided into one hundred shares, of \$25 each. A creamery





BANK BLOCK



building, 36 x 44 feet, and fifteen feet posted, was erected in the spring of 1884, on North Main street, equipped with the necessary machinery, and a 15-horse-power boiler. It was exempt from taxation for ten years. It started business with the product of from 250 to 300 cows, and its butter found ready market at a fair price. For a time, the enterprise prospered; but dishonest employees and other causes brought it under a cloud. Its dividends were unsatisfactory, suits at law ensued, and mortgages on the property were foreclosed. Finally matters were so adjusted that, in March, 1900, the property was leased to the Deerfoot Farm company, which has since done business there, taking from the farmers all the milk they have to dispose of, for which they pay a fair price. This company is now receiving the milk from about 350 cows. No butter is made here by this company, the cream being sent to market. George A. Dow has been in charge of this industry since the Deerfoot Farm company commenced business in Bristol.

## MISCELLANEOUS

The building at the corner of Lake street and Hillside avenue was erected by the Grange organization that existed in Bristol in the seventies. The first story was designed for a store, and, in the second story was a hall. Dissensions ended the organization, and this property passed into other hands. The hall was transformed into a tenement. The first story was first used in 1878, when A. P. Harriman and Charles Boardman opened a country store, continuing one year. Lucian A. Ballou, who had been in trade in the building at the junction of Lake and Willow streets, since 1869, removed to this building in 1879, and continued in trade till 1881, when he sold to Seavey & Co., who were in trade till they sold to John S. Conner, in 1884. Mr. Conner was in trade from 1884 till June, 1900, when he sold to Fred E. Noyes, who is still in trade here.

In the summer of 1878, George H. Kendall, when 13 years of age, commenced the sale of lemonade in front of his father's house next east of the bank building. From this small beginning his business grew, and, in 1883, he erected a building 12 x 18 feet, and kept a confectionery and fruit store here till 1895. He was followed by N. Giguere, G. S. Tilton, and Leston Welch, and later Mrs. S. N. Colby had a ladies' furnishing store.

Frank P. Hight had a grocery store at the corner of Lake and Union streets about two years from 1892. He was followed by George F. Fifield for about the same time. Since July, 1898, Frank H. Fleer has been in trade there.

Dr. Quincy A. Ballou has practiced dentistry in Bristol since 1882, and has rooms in White's block.

Dr. G. A. Yeatter has been practicing dentistry in Bristol since 1899, having rooms in the Abel block.

John W. Wilbur & Co. have carried on the livery business at the stable connected with Hotel Bristol since November, 1891.

John A. Favor has been in the livery business on Lake street for nine years.

William P. Beede has a livery stable on Water street.

Harry W. Proctor has had a jewelry store on Pleasant street since October, 1901.

H. H. Follansbee and J. D. Follansbee are dealers in furs and hides.

Sam Follansbee has been an auctioneer for many years.

S. S. Quint, Charles E. Locke, F. W. Simonds, A. P. Harri-man, and J. G. Wells are painters and paper hangers.

B. L. & A. Wells and David Perkins are builders.

R. S. Hastings is a surveyor and a millwright.

Charles W. Sanborn, Fred E. Gates, and George Gates are masons.

M. W. Rowe is an upholsterer.

Mrs. Francena Crosby and Mrs. Hulda L. Burleigh are keeping boarding-houses.

A building off from Beech street has been used for many years as a blacksmith shop. Melvin H. Johnson carried on this business here for some years. J. D. Webber was in business here for ten years from 1890, and was followed by C. C. Martin, who remained till November, 1902. Mr. Webber is again conducting this business.

Since 1880, C. A. Smith has operated a blacksmith shop and carriage shop on Lake street.

Anson Buxton has had a blacksmith shop on Merrimack street since 1879.

Joseph Decato has had a blacksmith shop near the junction of Willow with Lake street for several years past.

Alvah A. Veasey has had a meat market on Pleasant street since 1898.

George A. Robie has conducted the undertaker's business from 1861 till now.

For seventeen years previous to 1890, Mrs. S. M. Ballou had a millinery store on Lake street, in the building now occupied by John A. Favor as a residence.

Fred W. Ballou was engaged in watch and clock repairing from 1868 to 1875, being located at the corner of Central square and Spring street and on Pleasant street.

The first bakery was opened by Kendall Brothers, in 1892.

In 1898, Smith D. Fellows erected greenhouses on Merrimack street. He had over 8,000 square feet under glass, which were heated with two 35-horse-power boilers. He did a good business, but in the fall of 1901, removed to Massachusetts.

Charles Forrest and James T. Sanborn, under the firm name of Sanborn & Forrest, and as individuals, were engaged



for many years as carpenters and builders, and erected many buildings in town, among them the schoolhouse of Union District and hotel. They also rebuilt the Congregational church.

Silas W. Call was a dealer in stoves and tinware for about eight years previous to 1883, first in the Tukey block and later in the Call block on Spring street.

The double tenement house at the corner of South Main and Beech streets was erected by D. S. Smith, in the early thirties. Here Mr. Smith kept store and sold watered rum.<sup>1</sup> Here S. S. Sanborn and S. S. Worthing opened a wholesale grocery store in 1848, it being supposed that the railroad would make Bristol a great center for trade.

In the Fisk block, A. J. Wait & Co. had a tin-shop between 1843 and 1849, and H. A. Randolph a tailor's shop in 1861-'62.

Between 1842 and 1850, what is now the Congregational parsonage stood on the east side of Central square, between the Fisk block and residence of Miss Mary E. Bartlett, and here A. S. Ordway had a shoemaker's shop, employing several hands.

In the fifties, Hiram W. Kendall had a tin-shop on the east side of North Main street, next south of the present residence of Charles H. Proctor.

Andrew J. Smith, who came to Bristol about 1840, early engaged in the jewelry and watch repairing business, and prosecuted this business till near the time of his death, in 1880.

James Musgrove carried on the tailoring business in Bristol from 1837 till within a few years of his death, in 1878, the most of this time in a shop adjoining his residence on North Main street.

Lorenzo D. Day commenced working marble in a small building on the south side of Central street in 1863. The business was continued by him and his son, Charles H. Day, in the "old academy" building till Jan. 1, 1886, and since then by Fred S. Fall, in the same place.

Moses B. Howe opened the first barber shop in Bristol, in 1865, and continued this business in the basement of Hotel Bristol ten years or more. Charles L. Follansbee has prosecuted this business, with the exception of four years, in the same place, since 1883.

Dr. C. H. White practiced dentistry in Bristol for a year or more till 1878 and was succeeded by Dr. J. E. Blake, who practiced till May, 1880, when he sold to Dr. C. W. Coolidge, who became a resident of Bristol and continued till 1885. He has since made frequent visits to town, practicing his profession. Dr. Orren F. Emerson was in practice here from 1872 till 1881.

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<sup>1</sup>The story is told that on one April Fools' day Mr. Smith served a customer with a glass of water for toddy, as a joke. This the customer drank, paid for, and started to walk out without making any comments. Mr. Smith then made an explanation, to which the customer responded, "Well! I thought it was about as strong as usual."

## CHAPTER XXXIII

### LAWYERS AND PHYSICIANS OF BRISTOL

A lawyer's dealings should be just and fair ;  
Honesty shines with great advantage there.  
—*Cowper.*

A wise physician, skilled our wounds to heal,  
Is more than armies to the public weal.  
—*Pope.*

#### LAWYERS

DAVID SMILEY, Esq. The first practicing lawyer in Bristol was David Smiley. He was the son of William and Sarah (Robinson) Smiley and was born in Jaffrey, Mar. 26, 1769. He was graduated from Harvard college in 1796, and commenced the practice of law in his native town in 1801. About 1807, he settled in Bristol and remained in practice here till 1818, when he removed to Plymouth where he resided two years, and then went to Grafton, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was successful in his profession, of fine personal appearance, social and genial ; a staunch Whig, a member of the Congregational church and of the Masonic fraternity. He died of lung fever while attending court at Plymouth, May 19, 1845. (See Gen.)

Hon. MOSES HAZEN BRADLEY was in practice in Bristol from the early part of 1812 till 1834, with the possible exception of a portion of 1813 and 1814, when he was in Sanbornton. He was the second postmaster in Bristol and represented this town in the legislature of 1823, and this district in the senate in 1824. He removed from Bristol to Concord and there died, June 22, 1834, only a few months after leaving Bristol. He was noted for his pure Christian character and his readiness to assist legally those in distress. He would advocate no cause he thought unjust.

Hon. NATHANIEL G. UPHAM, LL. D., was the son of Hon. Nathaniel and Judith (Cogswell) Upham, and was born in Rochester. He was graduated from Dartmouth in 1820, and began the practice of law in Bristol in 1823, or early part of 1824. In 1829, he removed to Concord. He was judge of the superior court from 1833 till 1843 ; was commissioner for the adjustment of claims between the United States and Great Britain, and went to London in 1853 to act in this capacity ;

was given the degree of LL. D. by Dartmouth college in 1869. He was for years superintendent of the Concord railroad, and was a man of large business capacity. He was twice married, and died in 1869.

BANJAMIN F. WEEKS, Esq., came to Bristol from Warren, about 1830, and remained here two years, when he removed to the West.

SAMUEL H. STEVENS, Esq., was the son of John and Ruhamah (Fifield) Stevens, and was born in East Kingston, Nov. 20, 1802. He was graduated from Dartmouth in 1830, and married, July 27, 1840, Sophronia, daughter of Moses Sanborn, of Kingston. He was in practice in Bristol from about 1834 to 1846. He was cashier of a bank in Exeter from 1849 till 1858. He died in 1876.

HON. RALPH METCALF was born in Charlestown, Nov. 21, 1798. He was graduated from Dartmouth in 1823, and was admitted to the bar in 1826. He practiced law at Newport, at Binghamton, N. Y., and at Claremont; was secretary of state from 1831 till 1838. He was in practice in Bristol the latter part of 1838 and 1839. He was judge of probate for Sullivan county, and represented Newport in the legislature of 1852-'53, and was governor of this state 1855-'57. He died at Claremont, Aug. 26, 1858.

GEORGE MINOT, Esq., was born in New London, Aug. 10, 1806. He was graduated from Dartmouth college in 1831, entered upon the practice of law at Gilmanton, and soon after came to Bristol, where he remained till 1834. He then removed to Concord and became cashier of the Mechanicks bank. In 1854, he became the president of this bank. He was United States pension agent at the time of his death, which occurred at Concord, Mar. 8, 1861. (See Gen.)

FREDERICK BARTLETT, Esq., is a native of Bristol. He prepared for college at the New Hampton Literary Institution and was graduated from Dartmouth college in 1835; attended law schools at Cambridge, Mass., and New Haven, Conn., and read law with Judge G. W. Nesmith. He was for a time in business with N. B. Bryant in Bristol, but was in active practice only a few years. He succeeded his father on the home farm, and devoted his life to farming and settling estates. He represented Bristol in the legislatures of 1851, '60, '61, and '62, and in the constitutional convention of 1851. He is still a resident of Bristol, eighty-seven years of age. (See Gen.)

GEORGE M. PHELPS, Esq., came to Bristol from Hill in 1834, and remained here a short time.

HON. JOSIAH MINOT was born in Bristol, Sept. 17, 1818. (See Gen.) He was graduated from Dartmouth college in 1837; read law with Hon. John J. Gilchrist in Charlestown, and with Hon. Samuel Bell in Chester. He commenced practice

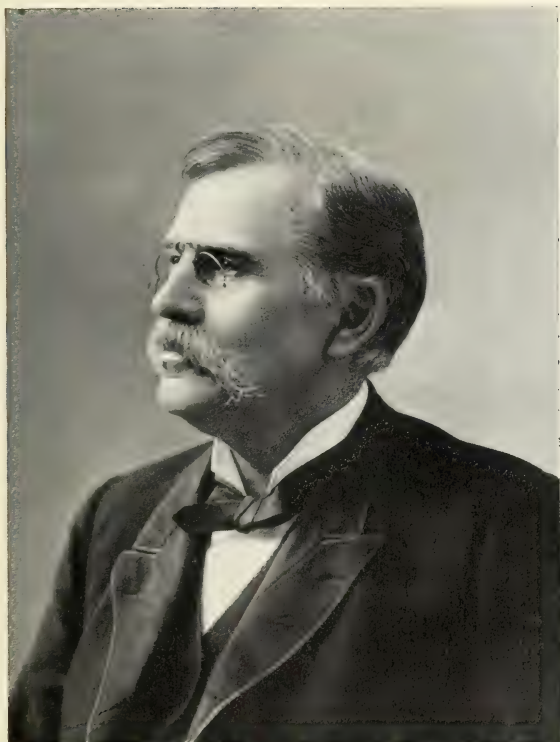
at Bristol in 1840, and removed to Concord in 1844, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was judge of the Court of Common Pleas from September, 1852, till he resigned, in March, 1855, to accept the office of Commissioner of Pensions, tendered him by President Pierce, with whom he had been associated as law partner for some years, in Concord. He was for many years director and treasurer of the Northern railroad, and afterward president and managing director of the Concord railroad. He was president of the Mechanicks bank, when state banks were abolished by law, and with his brother, Charles, organized the banking house of Minot & Co., and when the Mechanicks National bank was organized, became its president. He was one of the leading Democrats of the state, was chairman of the state central committee, a member of the National committee, and delegate to National conventions. He was regarded as one of the most astute business men of the state and stood in the front ranks of the New Hampshire lawyers for forty years. He was associated with Col. Solomon S. Sleeper in presenting Bristol with its public library. (See Libraries.)

GEORGE W. BURNS, Esq., was in practice here in 1847 and 1848. He sold his business to Napoleon B. Bryant.

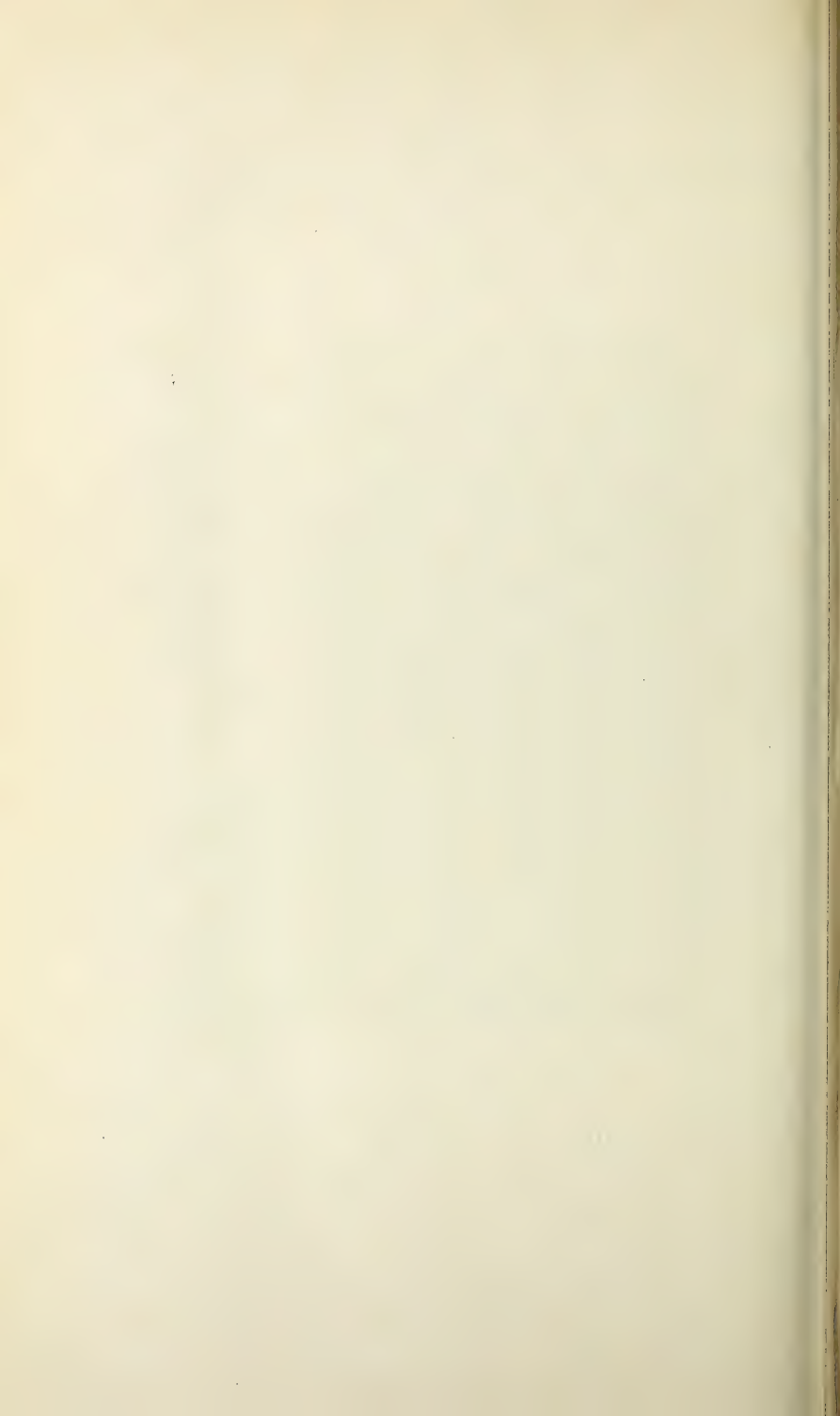
Hon. NAPOLEON B. BRYANT was born in Andover, Feb. 25, 1825. He was graduated from the Harvard law school in 1848, and was admitted to the bar in 1849. He located in Bristol in 1848, and remained till 1853, when he sold to Lewis W. Fling, Esq. He was county solicitor in 1853. He subsequently practiced in Plymouth, Concord, and Boston. He was a member of the legislature from Concord in 1857-'58-'59, and was speaker of the house the last two years. While in Boston he had a very large and lucrative business. He was a fine orator and had few superiors as an advocate. He retired from active practice and spent much of his last years in his native place. He died at a public gathering in Andover, just after having delivered an address, on the evening of Jan. 28, 1902.

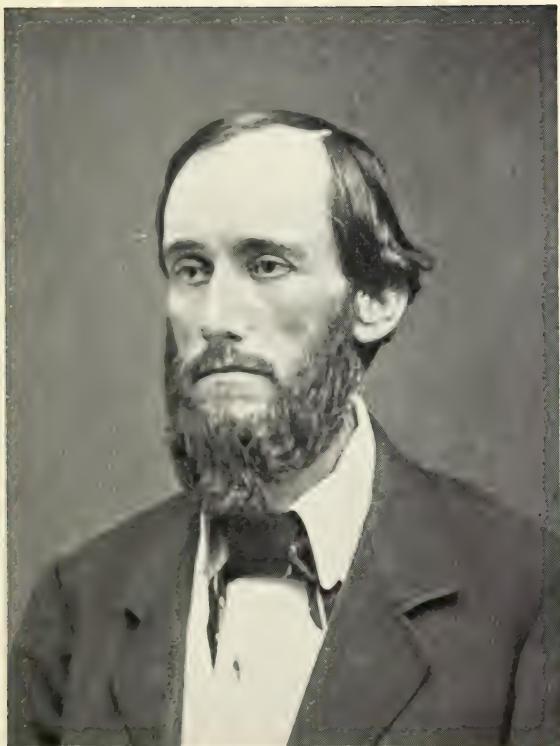
Hon. LEWIS WELLS FLING is a native of Windsor, Vt. He was educated in the district schools and the New England seminary of his native town, the academy at Claremont, and the Norwich University. He taught school eight terms. He read law in the office of Chief Justice J. E. Sargent at Canaan and at Wentworth; was admitted to the bar in 1851, and became the partner of Mr. Sargent, and so remained about two years. Feb. 23, 1853, he located in Bristol and became the successor of Hon. N. B. Bryant, in the office he still occupies in White's block. Mr. Fling has stood high in his profession, and has enjoyed a large and lucrative practice. He is a fine representative of the old school, always a gentleman, a fine conversationalist, and his presence is an ornament in any society. He was a member of the New Hampshire senate in 1871 and 1872, and was given



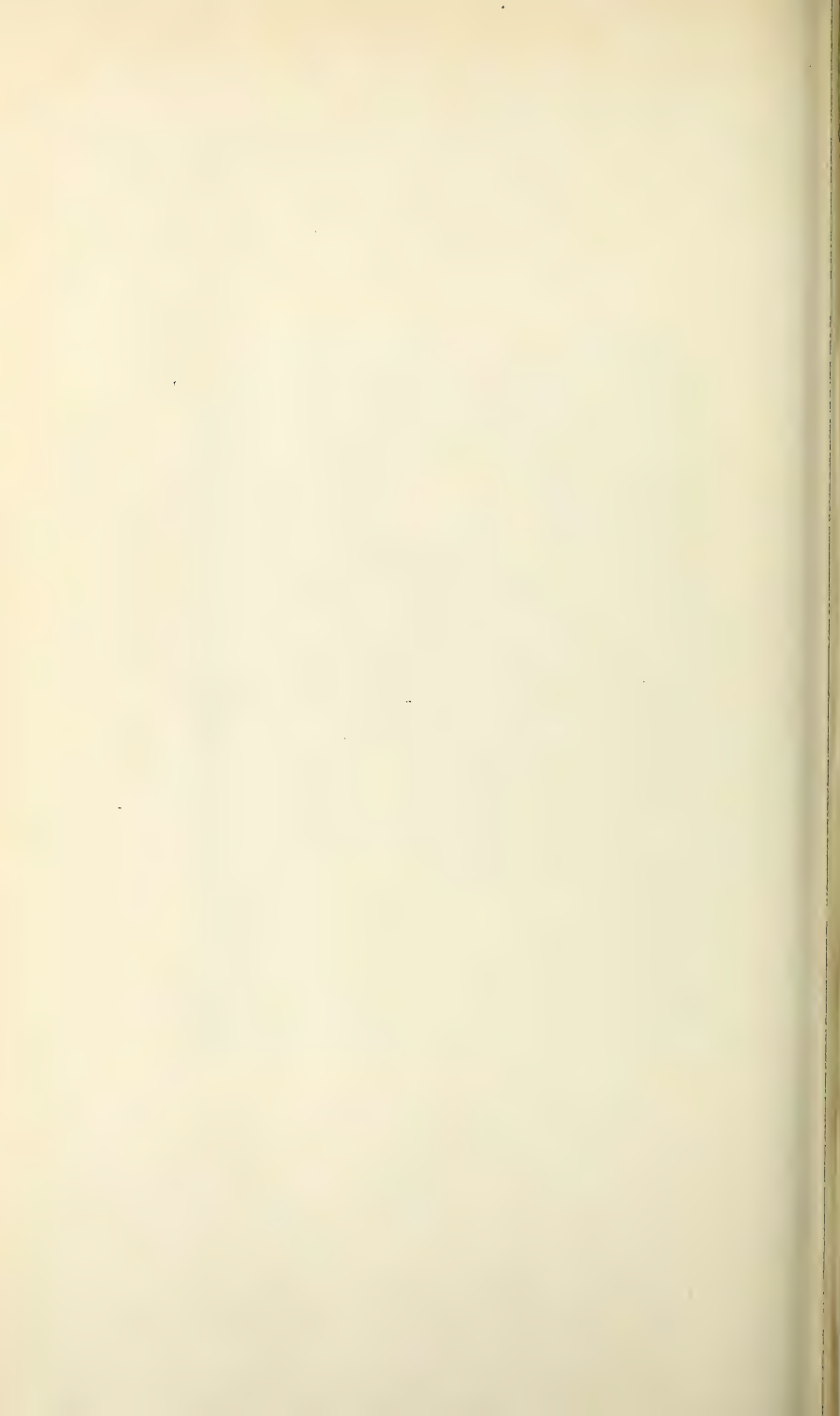


HON. LEWIS W. FLING





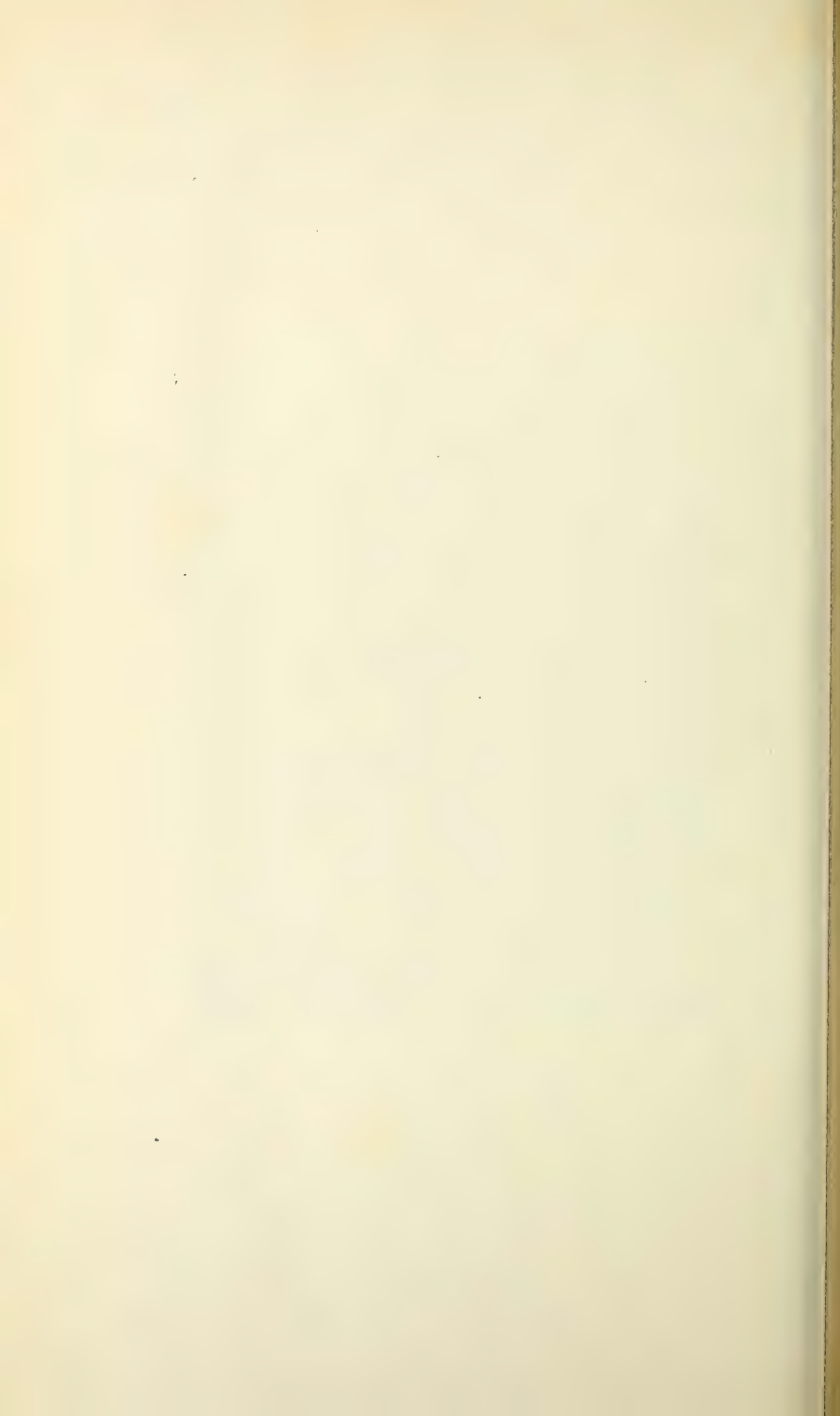
HON. SAMUEL K. MASON







HON. IRA A. CHASE



the honorary degree of A. M. by Dartmouth college in 1872. He has been a leader in educational matters in town, serving several years as a member of the board of education of Union District. Politically he is a Democrat, and he is a member of the Masonic fraternity. (See Gen.)

GEORGE TENNEY, Esq., was the son of Benjamin and Betsey (Taylor) Tenney, and was born in Groton, Feb. 12, 1831. He was graduated from Dartmouth in 1847. He married, June 12, 1853, Leuthera Melvina, daughter of Isaac Bissell, of Hanover. He was in practice in Bristol from about 1850 to 1860. He served as superintending school committee. He died at White River Junction, Vt., about 1870.

Hon. SAMUEL KELLEY MASON was born in New Hampton, May 17, 1832. He was graduated from New Hampton Literary Institution in 1854; attended law school at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and was graduated from Hamilton College law school, July, 1855. He was admitted to practice in New York city; entered the office of E. A. Hibbard, Laconia, and located in Bristol in 1856. He was postmaster from 1861 to '68, and represented Bristol in the legislatures of 1868, '69, '70. He was twice appointed commissioner of Grafton county to fill vacancies, serving in this capacity four years in all. He was judge of probate 1871-'73. He was a prominent Republican till the Liberal Republican movement in 1872, when he identified himself with that party and became its candidate for governor in 1873, and went with this party in its coalition with the Democratic party in 1874. For several years previous to his death he was an invalid, much of the time confined to his bed; but in spite of his physical condition he did business to the last. He was a man of superior abilities, was successful in his profession, and acquired a competence. (See Gen.)

SAMUEL EMERY HOLDEN, Esq., was born in West Concord, Feb. 3, 1845. He was graduated from the Tilton seminary in 1862; served nearly a year as private in the 16th Regt., N. H. Vols., in the Civil war; graduated from Wesleyan university, Middletown, Conn., in 1869; read law with Minot, Tappan & Mugridge, Concord; was admitted to the bar, and was in practice with Hon. S. K. Mason in Bristol, while serving as treasurer of the Bristol Savings bank. He left Bristol and engaged in manufacturing in Napa, Cal., where he died, Dec. 31, 1900. (See Gen.)

Hon. IRA ARTHUR CHASE is a native of Bristol. He was educated in the schools of Bristol, at New Hampton Literary Institution, and Dartmouth college, where he was graduated in 1877. He read law with Hon. L. W. Fling, was admitted to the bar in 1881, and has since been in practice in Bristol; with Mr. Fling till September, 1894, from which time a member of the law firm of Dearborn & Chase till 1903. He is a member of the American Bar association, and at the head of the local council for

New Hampshire ; he was assistant clerk of the senate in 1883 and 1885 ; clerk, in 1887 and 1889. He represented Bristol in the legislature in 1897, when he was chairman of the committee on revision of the laws ; and in the constitutional convention of 1902. In 1901, he represented this district in the senate. He is a past master of Union Lodge, No. 79, A. F. and A. M., and has attained the thirty-second degree in Masonry. He is now serving as senior grand warden of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Hampshire. He has been trustee of the Minot-Sleeper library since its establishment, and for several years chairman of its executive committee. He is always prominently identified with any movement for the advancement of the interests of his town. (See Gen.)

KENSON ELIPHALET DEARBORN, Esq., was born in Hill, April 22, 1844. He was educated in the schools of his native town and at New Hampton. He read law in the office of Hon. L. W. Fling, was admitted to the bar in May, 1873, and has since been in practice in Bristol, and, from 1894 till 1903, a member of the firm of Dearborn & Chase. Mr. Dearborn has never entered politics, but has served several years as supervisor of the checklist, and six years as a member of the board of education of Union District. (See Gen.)

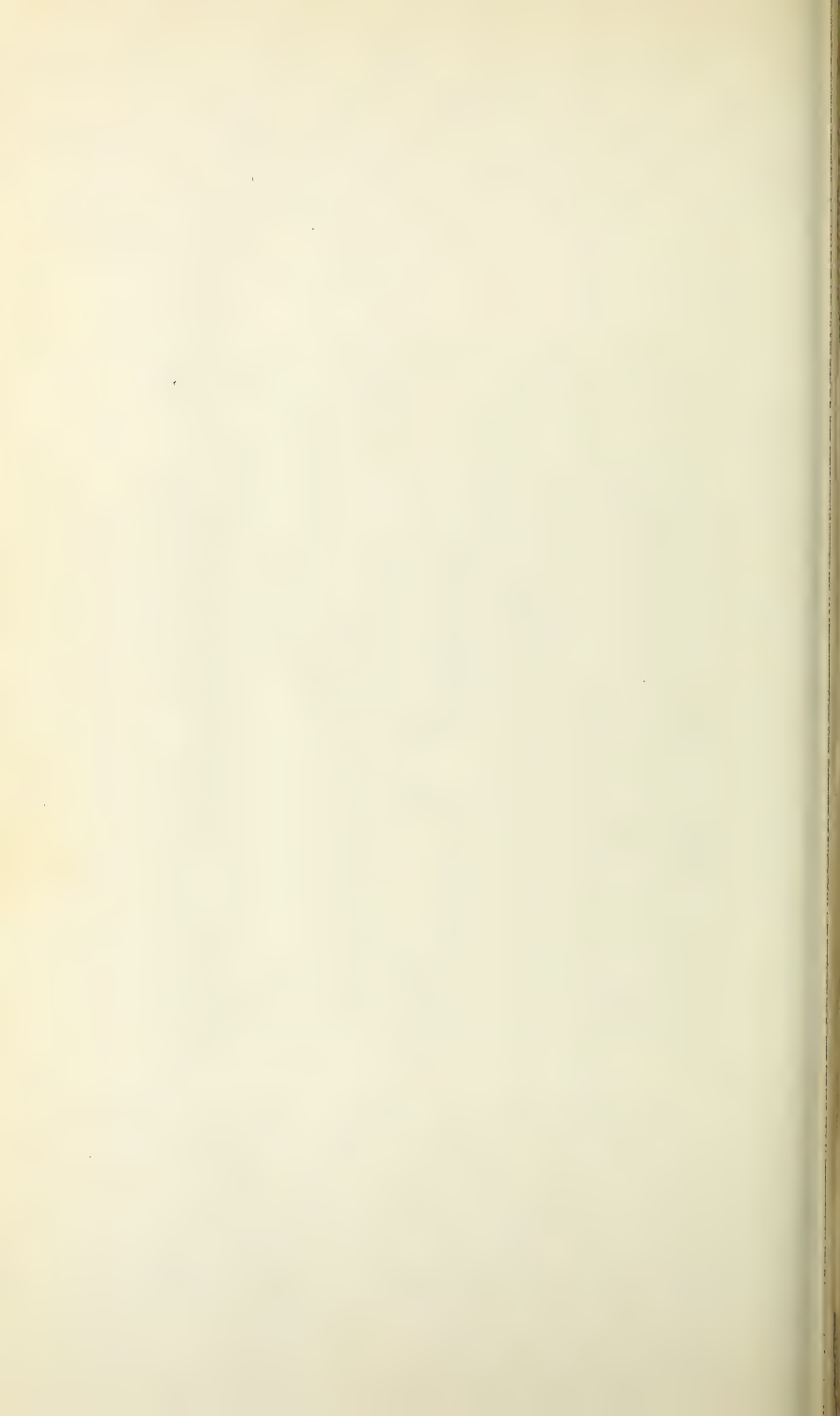
GEORGE ADDISON EMERSON, Esq., was born in Hermon, Me., Aug. 24, 1846. He served five months in the 42nd Regt., Mass. Vols. in 1864, in the Civil war. He was educated at Tilton seminary, at Wesleyan university, and at Harvard Law school, where he was graduated in 1875 with the degree of LL. B. He taught Latin and Greek at New Hampton Literary Institution one year, and then, to prepare for admission to the bar in New Hampshire, studied one year in the office of Sargent & Chase, Concord. He was admitted to the bar in 1878 and practiced in Bristol one year, then taught Mathematics and other branches at New Hampton four years ; was clerk of the Supreme court of Belknap county one year — 1883 till 1884 ; special examiner of the Pension Bureau two years, working largely in the West. During his residence in New Hampshire, from 1886 till 1892, he practiced his profession in addition to his other duties, and, since 1892, has been in practice in Everett, Mass. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., the Masonic fraternity, and of the G. A. R. In politics is a Republican, and in church affiliations a Methodist, and during his residence in Bristol was an official member of the Methodist church. (See Gen.)

CHARLES WILLIS FLING, Esq., was born in Bristol, Aug. 27, 1856, and is a son of Hon. Lewis W. Fling. He was educated in the public schools of Bristol and at the New Hampton Literary Institution. He was given a commission as justice of the peace in 1885, and notary public in 1887, and though not a



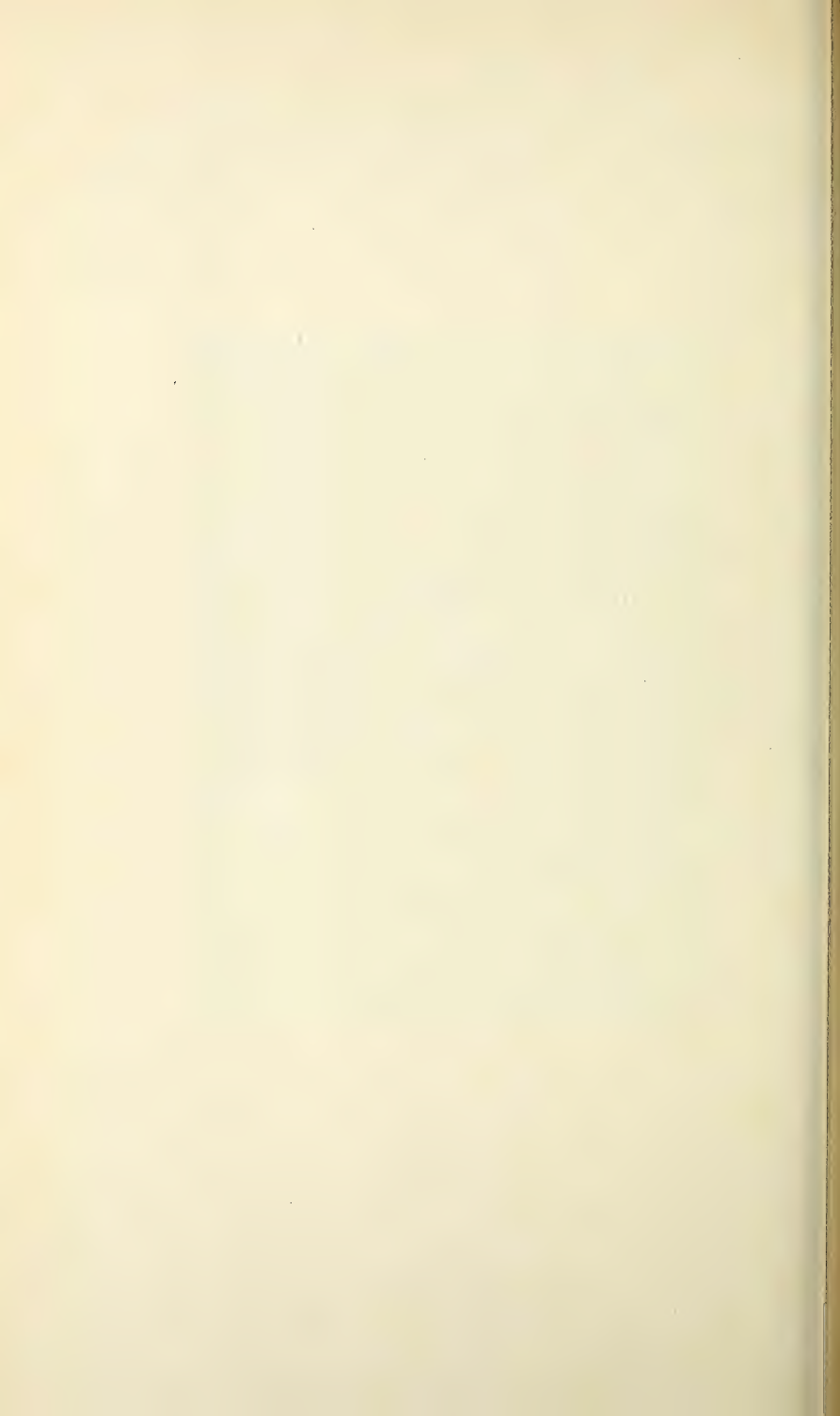


KENSON E. DEARBORN, ESQ.





GEORGE A. EMERSON, ESQ.





professional lawyer, devotes his time to legal work—making legal papers, attending to probate business, insurance business, and hearing cases as justice. His office is in White's block. He is a past master of Union Lodge, A. F. and A. M., has served two years as town clerk, seven years on the board of education, four years on the board of health, and is now serving his third year as fireward.

## PHYSICIANS

Dr. TIMOTHY KELLY was the first resident physician within the limits of Bristol, and one of the first school-teachers. He had seen service in the Revolutionary war and at his marriage, or soon after, went from Amesbury, Mass., to Candia. He came to Bristol, then Bridgewater, about 1790, and settled on Summer street, on the William G. Kelley place. In 1799, he sold his Summer street home and moved to near the foot of Alexandria hill. From there he removed to where George Price now resides, a mile south of this village, and later to Hill village, where he died. He had an extensive practice riding through New Chester, Bridgewater, Plymouth, Alexandria, Danbury, and Andover. (See Gen.)

Dr. TIMOTHY TILTON was a practicing physician as early as 1793, and he was practicing in what is now Bristol village in 1812, residing on the north side of Pleasant street. He was a man of means but lost his property through the failure of Moses Lewis. In 1823, he was residing on Bridgewater hill, and at that time was a member of the District Medical society. (See Gen.)

Dr. BENJAMIN GALE was an early physician in Bristol. He was here soon after 1800. He came from Hebron and remained only a few years, removing to the southern part of Alexandria, where he was in practice as late as 1827.

Dr. WALTER I. WARDROBE had a brief career as a practicing physician here. June 23, 1817, he published a card in the *New Hampshire Patriot* saying he had "been licensed to practice by the New Hampshire Medical society, and would inform the people of Bridgewater that he had taken a room at the inn of Isaac Dodge, near the bridge, where he would be pleased to wait on them in the line of his profession." He is said to have lost his life by being thrown from his carriage over an embankment on the river road between Bristol village and New Hampton, breaking his neck. Color is given to this tradition from the fact that July 17, 1821, Moses H. Bradley published in the *New Hampshire Patriot* his appointment as administrator of the estate of Dr. Walter I. Wardrobe.

Dr. SAMUEL SMITH was a practicing physician here as early as 1820. He continued here till about 1832, when he removed to Louisanna with Moses Lewis. While here he was a

prominent member of the Congregational church. Dr. Otis Ayer was in company with Dr. Smith for a time. Their office was in the Fisk block.

Dr. JOSEPH BARTLETT EASTMAN, a cousin of Ichabod C. Bartlett, came from Salisbury, and practiced for a brief time, then removed from town.

Dr. MOODY CURRIER SAWYER was born in Hopkinton, Oct. 2, 1807, and came to Bristol with his parents in 1816. He was a graduate of Dartmouth Medical college, and, in 1836, was in practice in Concord, Vt. In 1837, he was in Bristol. Owing to ill health he discontinued active practice, and, in 1848, in company with Dr. H. B. Fowler, opened the first drug store in town where is now the east-side drug store. He continued in the active management of this business till near the time of his death in 1854. He was a prominent member of the Congregational church. (See Gen.)

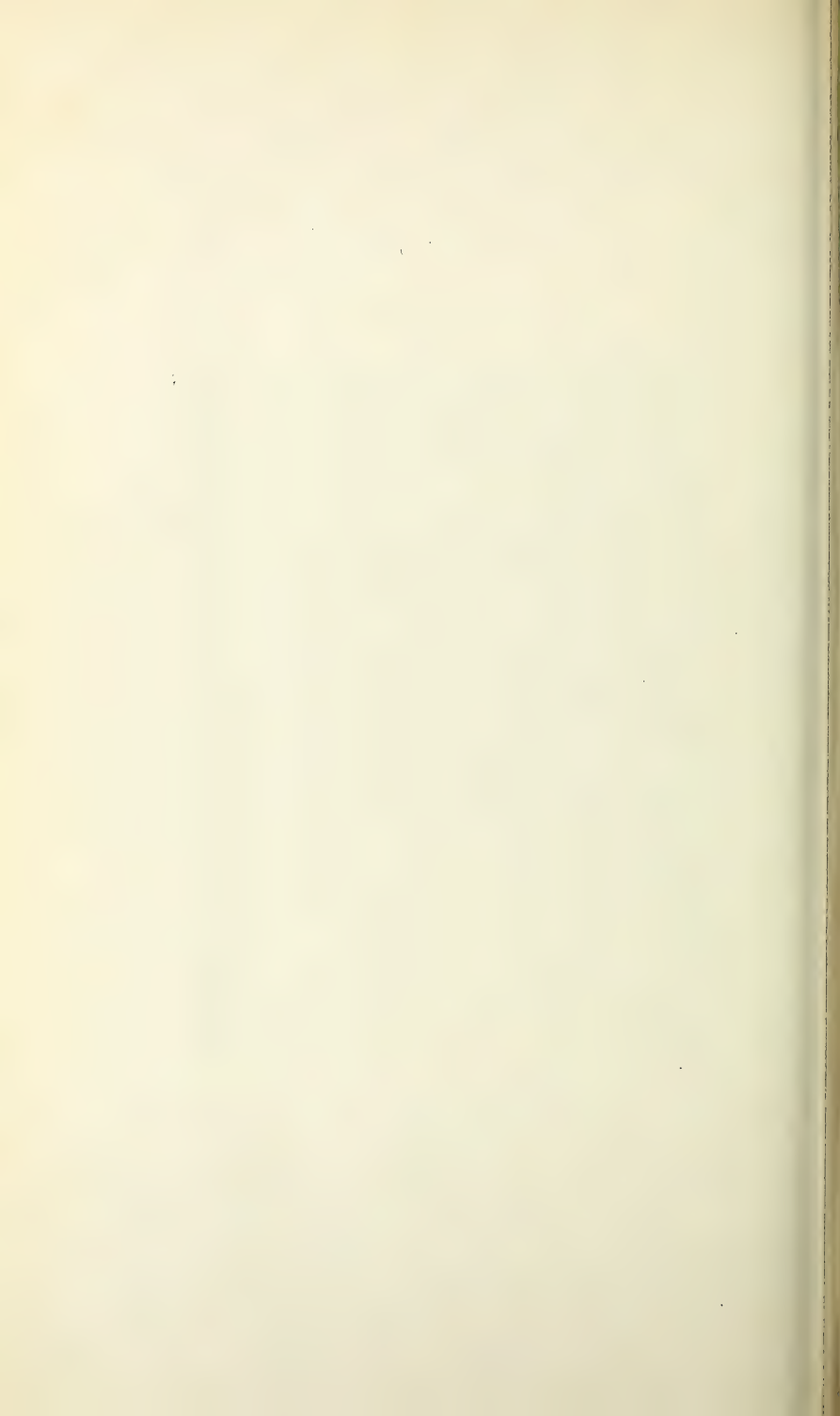
Dr. JOSEPH R. KELLEY resided on North Main street and practiced medicine from 1847 till 1850. He went to the gold fields of California, and returned a year or two later with a competence, when he removed with his family to the South.

Dr. MOSES COLCORD HOYT was in practice in Bristol from about 1848 till 1855. He married a daughter of Samuel C. Brown. He occupied the first story of the Andrew J. Crockett residence on Lake street. (See Gen.)

Dr. JACOB SAWYER EATON persued his studies preparatory to college and was fitted to enter college in the fall of 1823, but lack of funds led him to take a shorter course to the medical profession, which he always regretted. In February, 1824, he entered the office of Dr. Caleb Buswell at Warner, his native town. He received the degree of M. D. from Hanover Medical college in 1826, and the next spring he commenced practice in Alexandria. In 1832, Dr. Samuel Smith, then practicing in Bristol, being about to leave town, the citizens held a meeting and passed resolutions inviting Dr. Eaton to locate here, and Ichabod C. Bartlett was made a committee to bear the invitation. The next day, Mr. Bartlett proceeded to Alexandria in his square top chaise, and in a dignified and courteous manner, read the resolutions and invitation to Dr. Eaton in his home. The doctor was taken by surprise, and replied he would give an answer in a few days. In due time he accepted and removed to Bristol. He resided and had an office in a house that stood where the M. E. church now stands. He continued in practice till January, 1851, when his health failed, and he retired to the farm now owned and occupied by Milo Fellows. In 1855, he removed to Stow, Mass., where he resumed practice. In 1857, he removed to South Deerfield, Mass., where two years later he turned his practice over to his son, John M., and removed to Harvard, Mass., where he spent his remaining years in farming



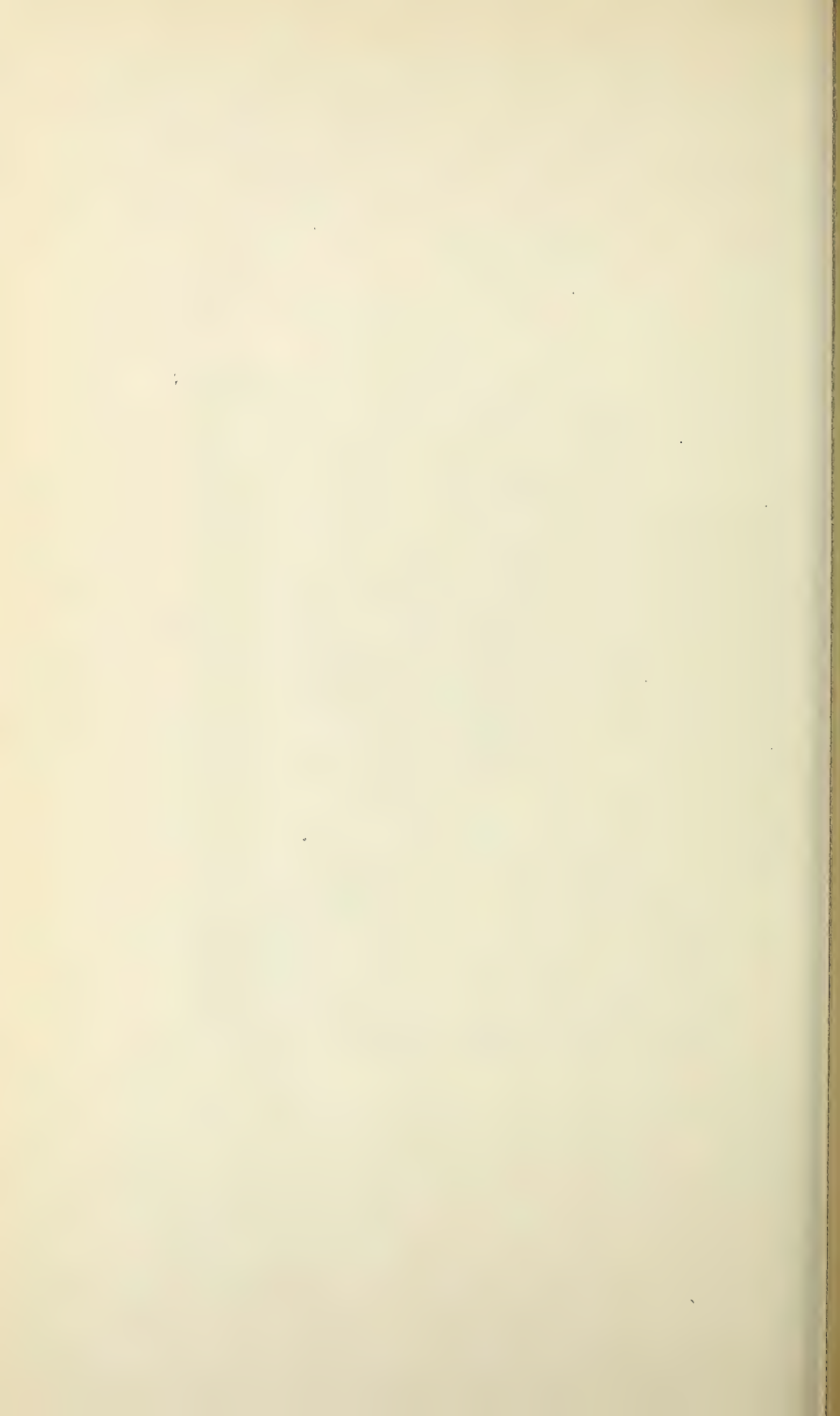
IRA S. CHASE, M. D.







JAMES M. BISHOP, M. D.



and in the pleasures of literature. There he died Sept. 5, 1888. Dr. Eaton was a man of marked individuality, and the impress of his character was clearly felt on the community. He stood high as a physician, was devoted to his profession, and spared not himself in caring for the sick. He was a constant worker in the temperance reform and an ardent abolitionist. He was an active member of the Congregational church, where he taught in the Sunday-school and sang in the choir. He took a special interest in education, and the schools wherever he lived felt his influence. Every movement for the benefit of the community found in him an active supporter and a zealous worker. (See Gen.)

Dr. IRA STEPHEN CHASE succeeded Dr. Eaton, having purchased his practice and real estate on North Main street, Jan. 7, 1851. May 3, 1866, he removed to the residence now owned and occupied by Sam Follansbee on Beech street, having purchased this place of William C. Lovejoy. Here he resided till January, 1871, when he moved into the new residence he had erected on School street, where he resided till his death. Dr. Chase was a native of Gilmanton. He was graduated from Gilmanton academy and studied medicine with Dr. Nahum Wight, of Gilmanton; attended lectures at Harvard Medical college, and was graduated from Dartmouth Medical college in 1841. He also attended lectures in New York in 1849 and 1850. Feb. 1, 1842, he commenced practice in Alexandria, and here he remained till he removed to Bristol. For fifty years he was in active practice, and it was not till the infirmities of age came that he relinquished even a part of his large practice. For many years after the Civil war he was a member of the United States examining board of surgeons to examine applicants for pensions and pensioners at regular intervals. He enjoyed a well earned reputation as a well read, conscientious, faithful, and successful physician. He took a lively interest in all movements for the public good, and on all public questions he took a positive position for what he thought was right. He was a steadfast friend of the temperance cause, and on this account, while in Alexandria, he suffered the loss of his new dwelling-house by incendiarism. In 1871, he united with the Congregational church, and was a charter member and past master of Union Lodge, No. 79, A. F. and A. M. In politics he was a Republican. (See Gen.)

Dr. JAMES MONROE BISHOP was born in Hanover May 14, 1821, where he resided until nineteen years of age. His parents died when he was but seven years of age, and he was adopted by his mother's parents, who moved to Canaan about 1840. Having a desire for further education, he obtained the means to support himself at the academies at Lebanon and Canaan for a term or two each year by working for the farmers a portion of

the year, and teaching during the winter. Having thus obtained a good academic education, he entered the office of Dr. Jones, of Canaan, in the spring of 1846, and later studied medicine under the direction of Dr. Wheat of the same town, rounding out a year of study. The two following years were spent in the study of his profession in the office of Dr. Mead, of East Andover, teaching each winter. In the spring of 1849, after teaching a term of school in Maine, he went to Plymouth and became an assistant to Dr. Goodrich with the intention of succeeding to that gentleman's practice when he moved South as was his intention. Dr. Goodrich, however, decided to remain in Plymouth and Dr. Bishop opened an office in Bristol, Nov. 11, 1849. Not feeling fully satisfied with the Allopathy practice and to further perfect himself for his profession, he took a course in the Eclectic Medical college, of Worcester, Mass., in the year 1854-'55, where he received the degree of M. D. He was a member of the New Hampshire Eclectic Medical society, serving as censor, vice-president, and president. The last twenty years of his life he practiced the Homœopathic course of treatment and became an earnest follower of Hahnemann and his teachings. He belonged to the New Hampshire Homœopathic Medical society, in which he held the offices of vice-president, president, and secretary, holding the latter office at the time of his death. He had a large and extensive practice in Bristol and adjoining towns covering a period of forty-two years, till his death, June 16, 1891. He was noted for his conscientious adherence to principle in religion, politics, and every-day life. He was an official member of the Methodist Episcopal church for many years, was town treasurer, superintending school committee, member of the board of education, and board of health. A mason. Republican. (See Gen.)

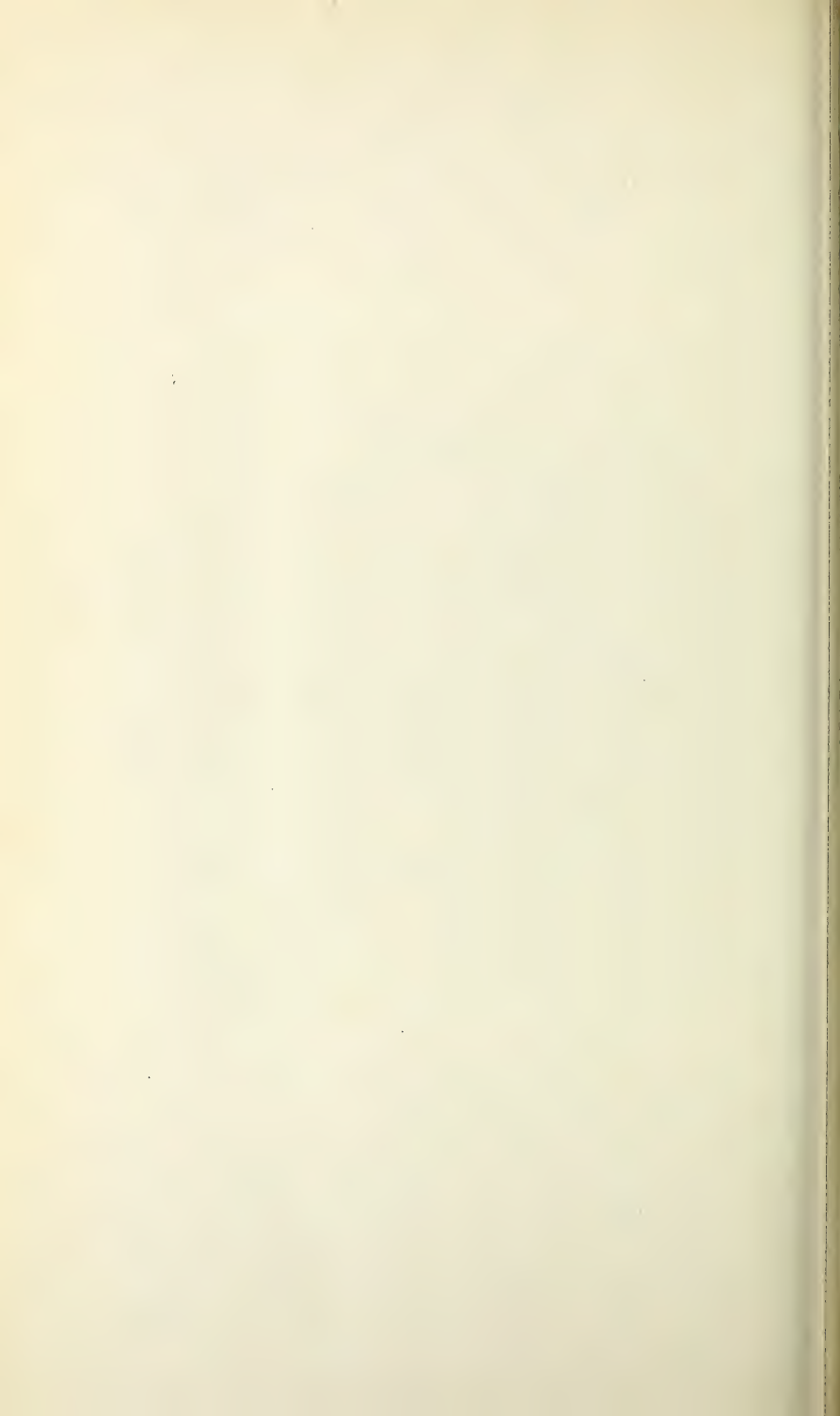
Dr. HADLEY BRADLEY FOWLER was a native of Bridgewater. He was educated in the schools of Bristol and the academy at Hebron. He studied medicine with Dr. Moody C. Sawyer in Bristol, and was graduated from Dartmouth Medical school in 1850. Soon after his graduation, he located in Alexandria, and removed to Bristol in 1854, and here, with the exception of three years in the army during the War of the Rebellion, he remained till his death, Jan. 11, 1893. (See Roll of Honor.) He had a large practice and stood high as a physician, and was especially skilful as a surgeon. He was popular in the community and prominent in town affairs. He served six years on the board of education and two years as town clerk. He was active and well known in Odd Fellow circles. He was one year the nominee of the Democratic party for railroad commissioner. (See Gen.)

Dr. AUSTIN S. DURKEE, of the botanical school, was in practice in Bristol a few years, removing to New Hampton in



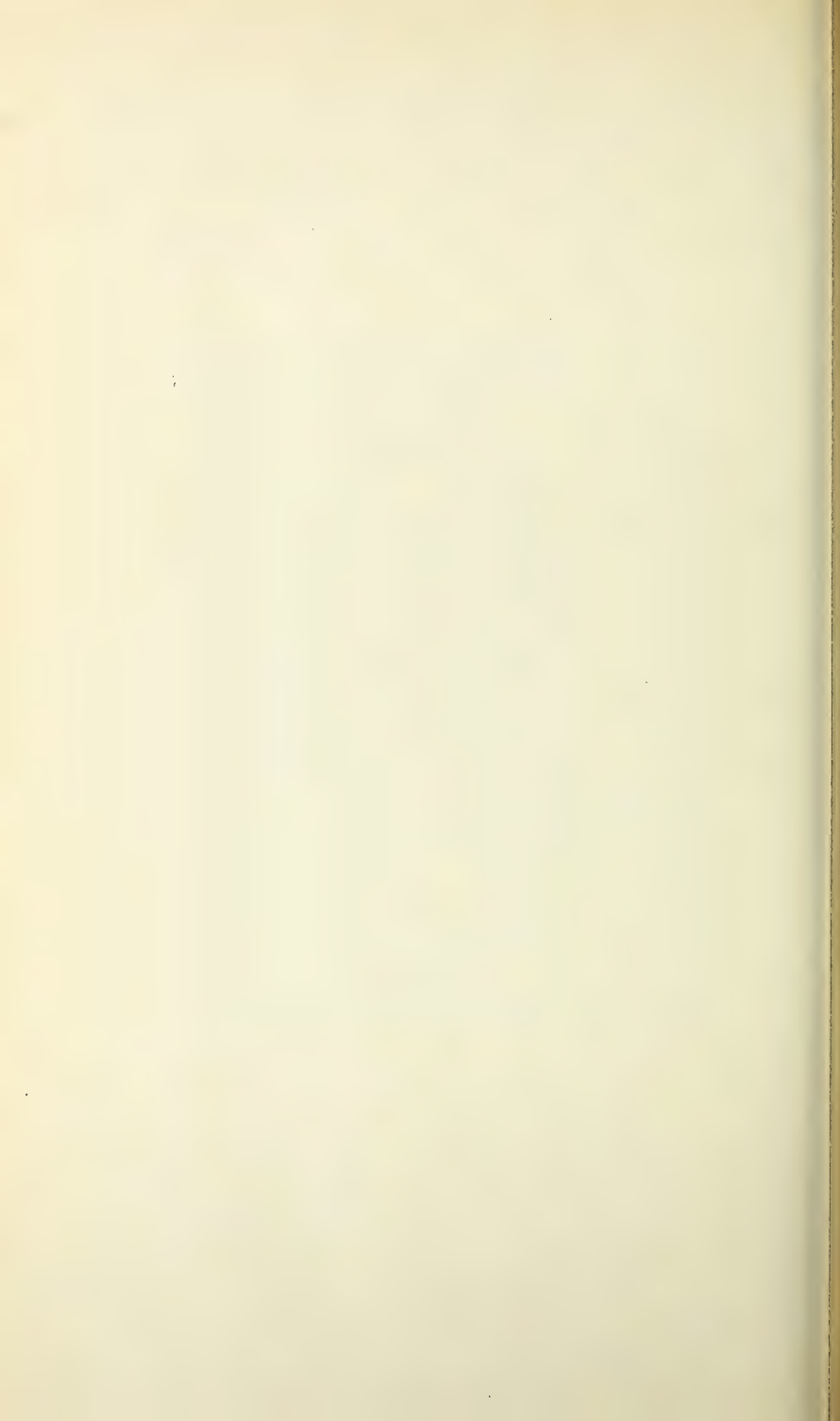


MAJ. HADLEY B. FOWLER, M. D.





GEN. GEORGE H. CALLEY, M. D.





1873. He was the son of Samuel Durkee, and was born in Williamstown, Vt., Feb. 15, 1806, and died in Franklin, Feb. 24, 1881. June 18, 1829, he married Sarah M. Ausment, by whom he had five children. One son, Freeman A., is a practicing physician at Lakeport.

Dr. LUCIUS ELBRIDGE TRUESDELL was born in Monson, Mass., May 10, 1818. After having practiced medicine for some years, he gave his attention to mining. He came to Bristol from Springfield, Mass., about 1875, and opened the silver mine in North Bristol. While doing this and subsequently, he practiced medicine to some extent. He died in Bristol, June 7, 1890.

Dr. DANIEL W. HAZELTON was in practice in Bristol from the fall of 1877 till the fall of 1879. During his brief residence in Bristol, he gained a high position in the esteem of the public as a man and as a skilful physician. Dr. Hazelton was born in Hebron, May 11, 1824, and died at Bellows Falls, Vt., Jan. 31, 1901. He was educated in the academy at Hebron under Prof. Hiram Orcutt; studied with Dr. Gilman Kimball, at Lowell, Mass., and was graduated from the Vermont Medical school at Woodstock, Vt., in 1848. He located at Antrim, where he remained two years. He practiced a short time in Stoddard; and, in 1851, located in Cavendish, Vt., where he remained till 1878, when he came to Bristol and purchased the practice of Dr. Hadley B. Fowler. He remained in Bristol only two or three years, removing to Springfield, Vt. During the Civil war, he was one of four surgeons commissioned by the governor of the state to act for the Vermont soldiers in emergencies, and he rendered efficient service after several battles. He represented Cavendish in the Vermont legislature in 1876. He was in practice fifty-six years. He was a most successful practitioner; of broad sympathy and good judgment. Nov. 5, 1850, he married Lauretta L. Hammond, who died Sept. 15, 1892. A son, William F. Hazelton, is a practicing physician at Bellows Falls, Vt.

Dr. GEORGE H. CALLEY is a native of Bristol. He was educated in the schools of Bristol and at the New Hampton Literary institution. He studied medicine in the office of Dr. Hadley B. Fowler, and was one year at Princeton college. In the summer of 1878, he accompanied the Princeton Observatory party, under Professors Young and Brackett, to Denver, for observing the eclipse of the sun, where he was on the photographer's staff. He was graduated from the Columbia college of Physicians and Surgeons, in New York city, in 1880, and located in Bristol, where he has since been in practice, doing a large and successful business. In 1883, he was appointed Surgeon General on the staff of Gov. Hale. Dr. Calley is a past master of Union Lodge, A. F. and A. M., and is a Knight Templar. He is a leading Republican and prominent citizen.

He has served on the board of education and represented his town in the legislature of 1887. He has served as a trustee of the Minot-Sleeper library and treasurer of the board since its organization; is president of the Bristol Savings bank, and a director of the First National bank. (See Gen.)

Dr. JOHN CHARLES WHEET was born in Groton, Feb. 15, 1840. He was educated at Dartmouth, Harvard, and Bowdoin colleges, being graduated from Bowdoin in the spring of 1866. Soon after, he began the practice of his chosen profession in Suncook village. Three years later, he purchased the practice of Dr. John Whitmore, of Hebron, and succeeded to his practice in Hebron, Groton, and adjoining towns. In 1883, he removed to Bristol. Here he at once took high rank as a physician, which he maintained till his death. He was skilful and conscientious in his practice and responded as quickly to calls where he could expect no compensation as to calls from the most favored. He occupied a warm place in the hearts of his patients and of the public as well. He was a Democrat, a member of the Congregational church, and he served several years on the board of education. On Tuesday, July 6, 1897, he was severely injured by being thrown from his carriage, his horse taking fright at a bolt of lightning striking near by. On Sunday, following, while confined to his bed as the result of this accident, he was stricken with apoplexy, and died. (See Gen.)

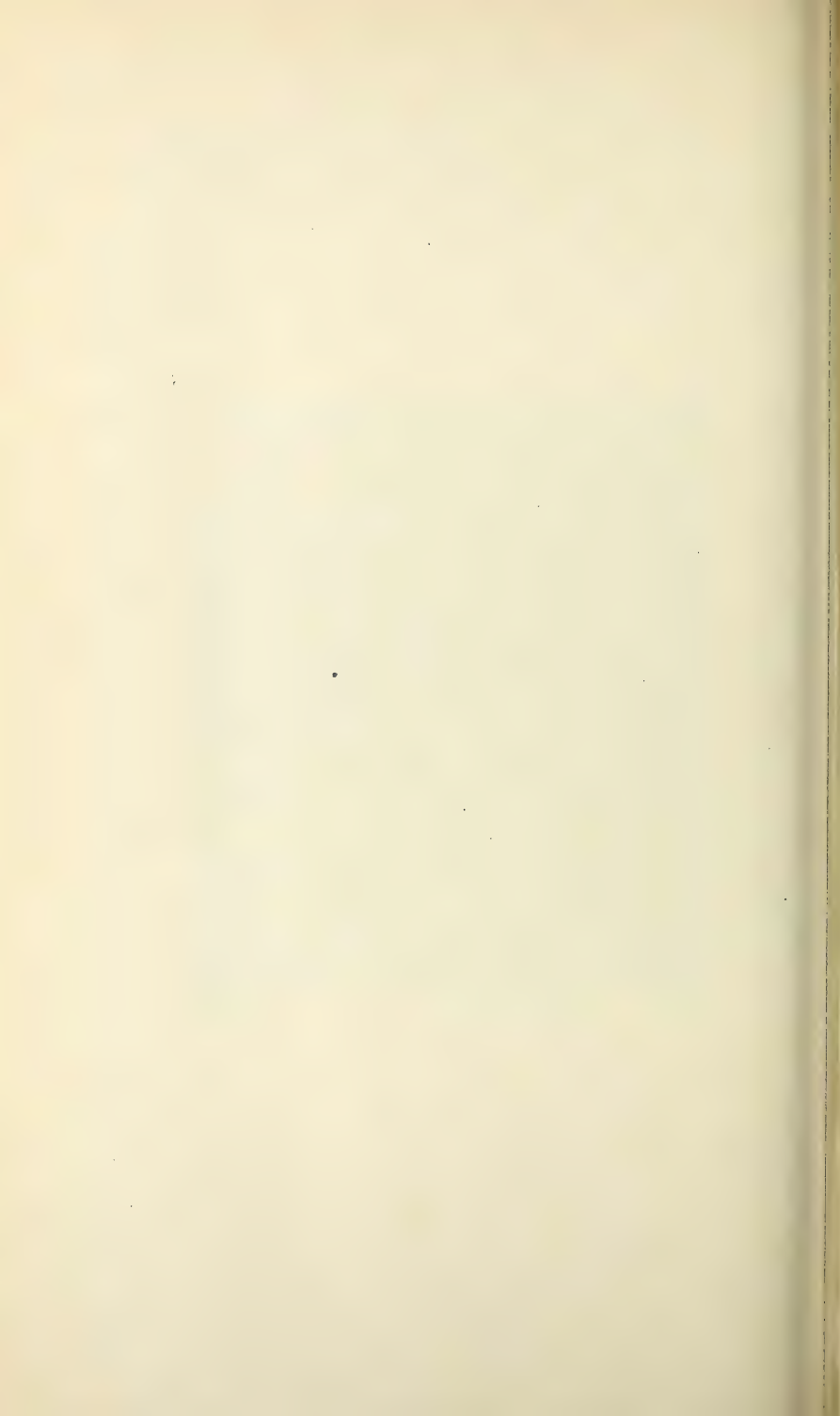
Dr. CHANNING BISHOP is a son of Dr. James M. Bishop, and a native of Bristol. He was educated at the seminary at Tilton, from which he was graduated in June, 1884; at Brown university; at Boston University School of Medicine, graduating in June, 1889. Soon after, he opened an office in Bristol and has since been in practice here doing an extensive and lucrative business. He is an Odd Fellow; a past master of Union Lodge, A. F. and A. M., and a Knight Templar. He has served six years on the board of education and four years as superintendent of schools. He has been secretary of the board of trustees of Minot-Sleeper library since 1891; is an official member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and a Republican in politics.

Dr. ARTHUR V. DOUD was born in New Haven, Vt., Oct. 23, 1867. He was graduated from the Lyndon Commercial college in 1887; attended St. Johnsbury academy and Lyndon Literary institute, for four years, graduating from the latter in 1892. He was graduated from the Medical department of the University of Michigan, in 1896. He practiced one year in Hill and located in Bristol in July, 1897, and at once secured an extensive and lucrative practice. (See Gen.)

Dr. JOHN W. COOLIDGE was educated in the high school at Hancock and at Dartmouth Medical college, from which he was graduated Feb. 26, 1901, receiving the degree of M. D. He commenced practice in Bristol Apr. 1, 1901, and has a good



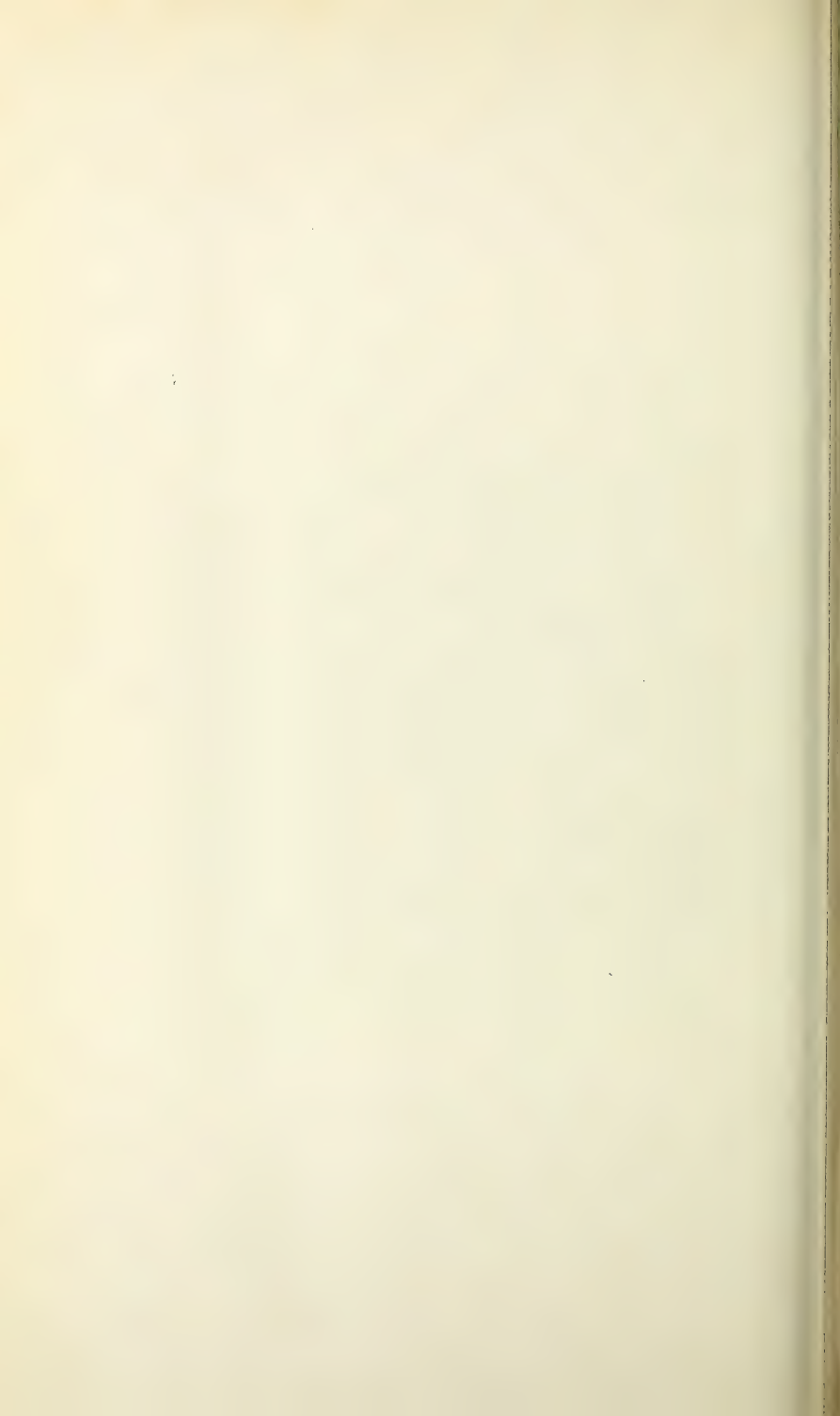
JOHN C. WHEET, M.D.





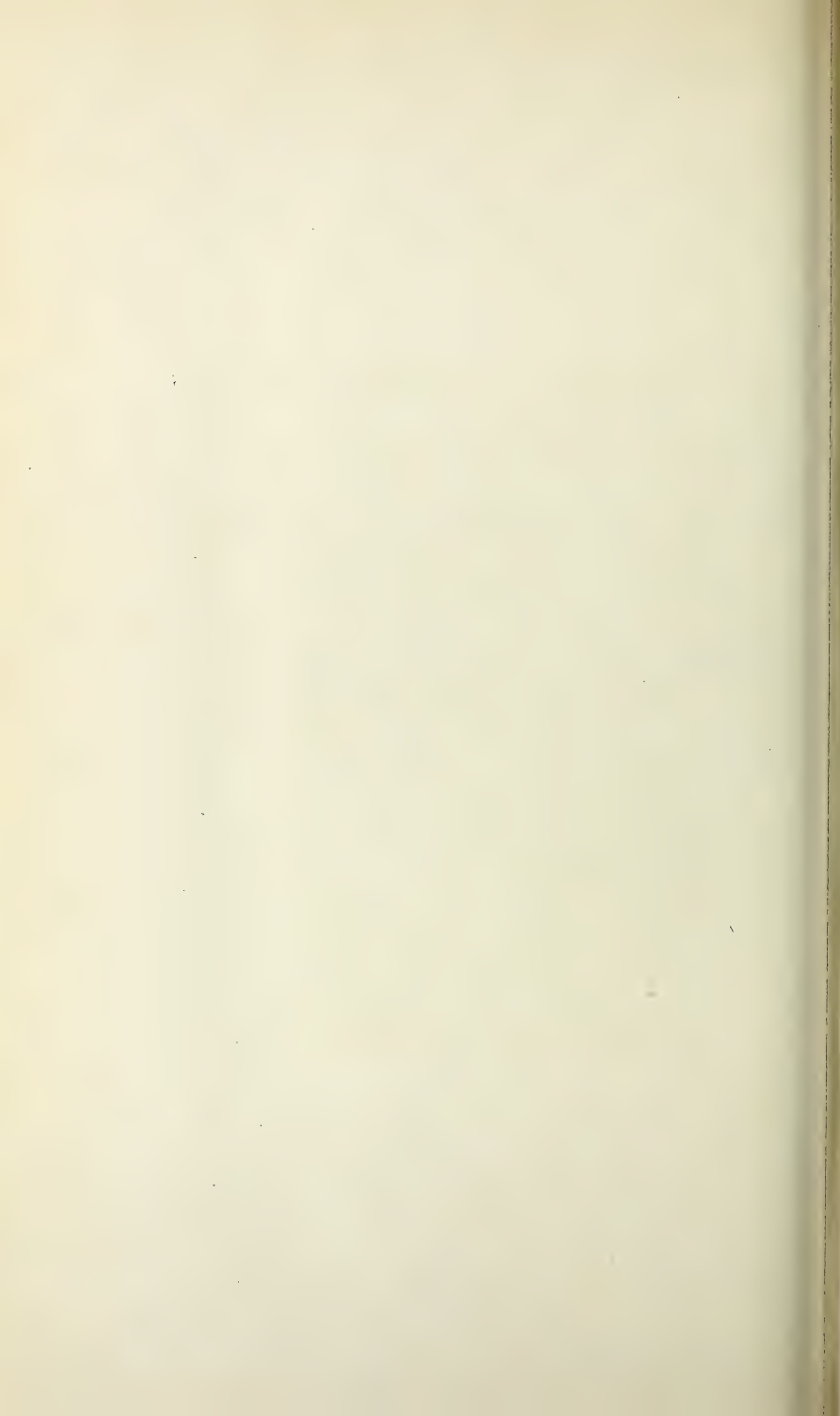


CHANNING BISHOP, M. D.





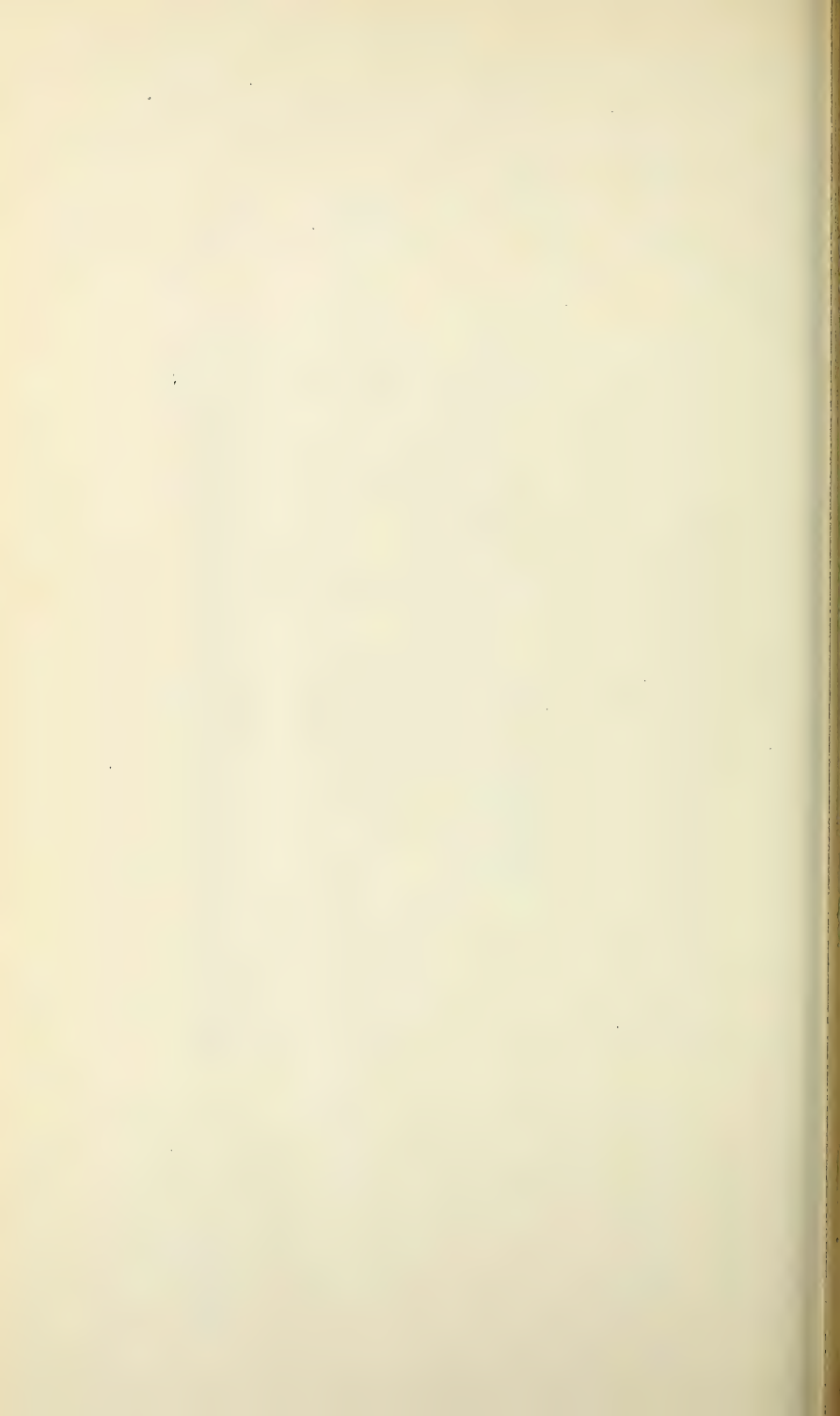
ARTHUR V. DOUD, M. D.







JOHN W. COOLIDGE, M. D.



practice in Bristol and adjoining towns. He is a member of the Methodist church, and in politics is of Republican antecedents. (See Gen.)

Dr. FRED EUGENE WHEET was b. in North Andover, Mass., Nov. 11, 1867. He graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy among the honor men, in 1889, and in medicine from the New York University in 1892. He located in Bristol with his uncle, Dr. John C. Wheet, in May, 1892, but removed to Stevens' Point, Wis., in August, 1893. Since July, 1898, has been in practice in Rumford Falls, Me.

## CHAPTER XXXIV

### BANKS AND NEWSPAPERS

To whom can riches give repute or trust,  
Content, or pleasure, but the good and just?  
—*Pope.*

#### THE BRISTOL SAVINGS BANK

The Bristol Savings bank was incorporated July 1, 1868. The incorporators were William A. Berry, Albert Blake, George G. Brown, Levi Bartlett, Frederick Bartlett, James M. Bishop, Charles Boardman, Allen W. Bingham, George M. Cavis, George T. Crawford, Ira S. Chase, Daniel S. Chase, John M. R. Emmons, George W. Dow, Samuel Dustin, Lewis W. Fling, Hadley B. Fowler, Oscar F. Fowler, Samuel D. Farrar, Benjamin Q. Fellows, Benjamin F. Holden, Jr., Jeremiah A. Haynes, Silas Ketchum, William G. Kelley, William C. Lovejoy, Levi Locke, David Mason, Samuel K. Mason, Oscar F. Morse, Richard W. Musgrove, Benjamin F. Perkins, David P. Prescott, David H. Rice, Samuel H. Rollins, Solon S. Southard, James T. Sanborn, Cyrus Taylor, John P. Taylor, Warren White, Horace M. Emmons, and Marshall W. White.

This bank was authorized to do business for a term of twenty years, but, by a subsequent change, its charter became perpetual. The corporation was given the power to hold real estate for the purpose of discharging debts previously incurred, not to exceed \$10,000 in value at the time of purchase or acceptance. This was amended in 1879, so that the corporation was given the power to hold and dispose of real estate "which may have been or may hereafter be in good faith pledged and mortgaged for the security of its loans or debts," as well as for the discharge of debts previously incurred, and by an amendment passed in 1893 the limit to the value of real estate allowed to be held was placed at \$30,000.

The incorporators organized Mar. 23, 1872, at the office of Samuel K. Mason. This meeting adjourned from time to time till April 9, when the following officers were elected: President, Samuel K. Mason; vice-president, George M. Cavis; treasurer, Samuel E. Holden; trustees, Samuel K. Mason, George M. Cavis, Lewis W. Fling, David Mason, Benjamin F. Holden, Jr., Albert Blake, Edwin C. Lewis, George T. Crawford, and William A. Berry. Feb. 5, 1875, S. E. Holden resigned as treas-



urer, being about to remove to California, and George M. Cavis resigned as vice-president. These vacancies were filled by the election of George M. Cavis as treasurer, and David Mason, vice-president. Hon. S. K. Mason died June 13, 1882, and Hon. L. W. Fling was elected president. He served till the annual meeting in 1890, when he was succeeded by Hon. Benjamin F. Perkins, who served till June, 1896, when Dr. George H. Calley was elected president. Dr. Calley is still serving in this capacity. David Mason served as vice-president till June, 1890, when Burley M. Ames was elected and is still serving.

Feb. 5, 1884, the business had increased to such an extent that an assistant was needed for the treasurer, and Charles W. Fling was elected teller, and, Nov. 4, 1889, was made assistant treasurer. July 17, 1890, he was succeeded in this position by William C. White. Dec. 21, 1891, Mr. Cavis died and Mr. White at once succeeded him as acting treasurer, and Raymond Cavis became teller. Apr. 9, 1892, Mr. White was elected treasurer, and he is still serving. Raymond Cavis served as teller till 1898, when he was succeeded by William H. Marston, who still occupies this position. Edwin M. Davis has served as clerk since 1898. The bank was formally opened for business Apr. 30, 1872, and S. K. Mason, Mrs. Mason, and Miss Ethel were the first depositors, each depositing \$100.

The first place of business was in the office of S. K. Mason in a small building that stood at the southeast corner of the present bank lot, and continued there till Mr. Holden retired from the office of treasurer, when Mr. Cavis removed it to his counting room in the rear part of his store. Here it remained till April, 1884, when it was removed to the south room of the Post-office block, where it remained till it was moved into its present commodious quarters, Tuesday, Nov. 7, 1893.

The banking rooms are located in the south half of the first story of the bank block with the entrance on North Main street. The main room is 25 x 32 feet, with a lobby twenty-five feet deep, sixteen feet wide in front, and nine feet wide in the rear, the partition crossing the room diagonally with set-offs, the set-offs, of which there are three, having a wicket for treasurer, teller, and bookkeeper, respectively. This room is finished in antique quartered oak, hardwood floor, with steel panel ceiling, and is spacious, elegant, and convenient. The windows are of plate glass, each six feet high, that on Central square being eight feet wide, and the two on North Main street being ten and five feet, respectively. The vault opens from this room and is located in the southeast corner of the building. It stands on a massive foundation of stone and brick, built up from the cellar bottom to the level of the floor, and has a walk around it. The walls and the top of the vault are of brick, iron, and steel. There is an inner and an outer door. The inner door is made of

drill-proof steel, provided with two combination locks. The outer door is of steel, with a three-movement time lock, and is fitted with Damon patent gravity automatic bolt work. This door is a beautiful piece of mechanism, weighs 4,300 pounds, and is provided with all the latest devices against burglary. Inside the vault is a drill-proof steel safe with two combination locks. In this the cash and securities of the bank are kept. The vault has a capacity for three hundred safety boxes. At the left of the vault is the directors' room, 14 x 16 feet, and toilet room, 6 x 12 feet. These rooms, like the banking rooms, are finished in quartered oak. The cost of this building, including burglar proof vaults, was rising \$25,000.

From the first, the Bristol Savings bank has been remarkably successful. The first year there was deposited \$30,596.38. At the close of the fifth year, the deposits amounted to \$149,798; in April, 1885, the deposits had reached \$453,810, while just twenty-one years after the opening of the bank, the total assets had reached the large sum of \$726,234.

Samuel E. Holden was the son of Benjamin F. Holden, of West Concord. He was educated at Tilton seminary and at Middletown university, served a time in the army, read law, and came to Bristol in 1872, and became a partner of Hon. S. K. Mason in the practice of law.

George M. Cavis was a native of Bristol, for many years a successful trader in town and an excellent financier.

William C. White, the present treasurer, is also a native of Bristol. He was born May 31, 1865, and was, at the time of his election, probably the youngest treasurer of a savings bank in the state. After leaving the public schools of Bristol, he entered Tilton seminary, where he was graduated in June, 1885, but he continued his studies there for a year longer, taking a post-graduate course. In 1887, he entered the Littleton National bank as clerk and remained there till January, 1890, when he accepted a position as bookkeeper for the Littleton Lumber company. There he remained till elected assistant treasurer of the Bristol Savings bank.

#### Trustees

Samuel K. Mason, 1872-'82  
George M. Cavis, 1872-'75  
Lewis W. Fling, 1872-'89  
David Mason, 1872-'98  
Benj. F. Holden, 1872-'83  
Albert Blake, 1872-'92  
Edwin C. Lewis, 1872  
George T. Crawford, 1872

William A. Berry, 1872<sup>1</sup>  
Cyrus Taylor, 1873-'74  
Lucius W. Hammond, 1873-'82  
Benj. F. Perkins, 1875<sup>1</sup>  
John P. Taylor, 1875  
Marshall W. White, 1876<sup>1</sup>  
Robt. A. Horner, 1883-'89  
Eben. K. Pray, 1883-1901

<sup>1</sup> Still serving.

Burley M. Ames, 1884<sup>1</sup>  
 Henry C. Whipple, 1890<sup>1</sup>  
 George H. Calley, 1890<sup>1</sup>  
 Charles H. Proctor, 1893<sup>1</sup>

Charles E. Mason, 1899-1900  
 Orrin S. Gale, 1900<sup>1</sup>  
 John S. Conner, 1902<sup>1</sup>

#### Presidents

Samuel K. Mason, 1872-'82      Benj. F. Perkins, 1890-'96  
 Lewis W. Fling, 1882-'90      George H. Calley, 1896<sup>1</sup>

#### Vice-Presidents

George M. Cavis, 1872-'75      Burley M. Ames, 1890<sup>1</sup>  
 David Mason, 1875-'90

#### Treasurers

Samuel E. Holden, 1872-'75      William C. White, 1892<sup>1</sup>  
 George M. Cavis, 1875-'91

#### Assistant Treasurers

Charles W. Fling, 1889-'90      William C. White, 1890-'92

#### FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BRISTOL

The First National bank of Bristol was organized Sept. 28, 1898. The capital stock was \$50,000, divided into 500 shares of \$100 each. The following were elected as a board of directors: William C. White, Henry C. Whipple, Marshall W. White, George H. Calley, George B. Cavis, Burley M. Ames, Daniel B. Weymouth, John S. Conner, and Benjamin F. Perkins. The directors organized Sept. 30, by the election of Henry C. Whipple as president; Benjamin F. Perkins, vice-president; William C. White, cashier; discount committee, the president, cashier, Daniel B. Weymouth, George H. Calley, and John S. Conner. M. W. White, J. S. Conner, and D. B. Weymouth have retired as directors, and Clarence N. Merrill, Frank P. Fields, and Fred A. Spencer have taken their places. Messrs. Calley, Cavis, and Ames are now serving on the discount committee. William H. Marston of Oakland, Me., commenced his services as teller on the opening of the bank, and Edwin M. Davis as clerk, and they are still serving.

This bank opened for business Dec. 1, 1898, in the rooms of the Bristol Savings bank. Although having had an existence of but little more than four years, it is doing a business of nearly \$2,000,000 per year. Its officers are men of known capacity and business integrity, and the bank, therefore, occupies an honorable position in the business world.

<sup>1</sup> Still serving.

## NEWSPAPERS

In May, 1869, Isaac B. Gordon, who had had a printing-office in Bristol a year or two, started a twenty-four-column folio newspaper called the *Bristol Weekly News*. After having continued its publication a few months, he removed his office to an old church in South Alexandria, where he continued its publication till the paper had completed its first year. That same week the building and office were destroyed by fire.

In December, 1870, R. W. Musgrove opened a printing-office in the southeast room of the second story of White's block, and, about 1874, removed to Robie's block. Here, June 28, 1878, he issued the first number of the *Bristol Weekly Enterprise*. This was a four-page sixteen-column sheet, only 10 x 14 inches to the page. It was received with such favor that after four issues it was slightly enlarged, three inches being added to its length. At the end of five months, two pages were added, and, with the first issue in January, 1879, a twenty-four-column folio was issued, the outside being printed in Boston. Commencing with the fourth volume in June, 1881, it was enlarged to a twenty-eight-column folio, and with the first number of the seventh volume, increased to a thirty-two-column folio. At this time, it had a circulation of 1,600. Commencing with the tenth volume, it was made an all-home print. With the issue of Dec. 13, 1900, it was made an eight-page forty-eight-column quarto, and a slight change was made in name, dropping the word "Weekly," making it simply *The Bristol Enterprise*. This paper has ranked among the best of the weekly papers of the state. In January, 1884, the office was removed to its present quarters, on Central street, and thereafter operated by water-power.



## CHAPTER XXXV

### FIRE PRECINCT AND AQUEDUCT COMPANY

Hear the loud alarm bells—  
Brazen bells!  
What a tale of terror, now, their turbulency tells!

—Poe

#### BRISTOL VILLAGE FIRE PRECINCT

Previous to 1858, Bristol village had no facilities to fight fire other than the water pail. About this time, the hand tub, that still does service, was purchased through the efforts of Gustavus Bartlett, Capt. George W. Dow, and others. In 1859, the town was asked to build, or assist in building, an engine-house and declined to do either, and the engine was, therefore, housed in the wagon-shed of Capt. Dow on Union street.

July 4, 1861, came the greatest conflagration in the history of the town, when the entire west side of Central square was destroyed. At the next town meeting, in March, 1862, it was voted to adopt Chapter 116 of the Revised Statutes for the purpose of forming a fire precinct of the village school districts. A meeting of the voters of the precinct was held June 3, 1862, when H. B. Fowler was chosen moderator, and M. W. White, clerk. Firewards were elected and steps taken looking to the organization of an engine company, and a cheap fire engine-house was erected at the junction of South Main and High streets. This appears to have been the end of this effort. A little later, Warren White and others placed a force-pump and wheel at the lower end of the flume connected with the grist-mill on Central street, and laid four-inch iron pipe to Central square and to the Junction of Central and Merrimack streets. This afforded some protection for a limited area.

In March, 1871, the following petition was presented to the selectmen :

To the selectmen of the town of Bristol :

The undersigned, legal voters of the village of Bristol in said town, request you to fix by suitable boundaries a village fire district, including such village and such parts of said town as may seem to you convenient, and to make a record thereof.

R. B. Locke  
D. S. Fowler  
L. S. Wallace  
D. R. Smith

J. A. Haynes  
Geo. M. Cavis  
L. W. Fling  
H. C. Tabor

H. B. Fowler  
Samuel Page  
J. P. Taylor

On receipt of this petition, the selectmen established bounds for a village fire precinct, and made a record thereof as follows :

Persuant to the foregoing application of ten or more legal voters of the village of Bristol in the town of Bristol, we hereby fix by suitable boundaries a village fire district including said village, to be known as "Bristol Village Fire District" and to be bounded as follows :

Beginning at the south east corner of Milo Fellows' land on Pemigewasset river, at the south west corner of land of Warren White, thence northerly on said Fellows easterly line to the New Hampton road, to the south east corner of land of Levi Locke, thence northerly on the easterly line of said Locke's land to the north-easterly corner of the same, thence westerly on the northerly line of said Locke's land, and northerly line of land of heirs of Levi Bartlett and the southerly line of Joseph Kidder's pasture to the old turnpike, thence northerly on said old turnpike to the northerly line of Cyrus Taylor's land, thence westerly on said Taylor's northerly line to the east corner of John F. Cass' land, thence westerly on said Cass' southerly line till it strikes Newfound river, thence down said river to the north east corner of Blake & Mason's Blaisdell land, thence westerly and southerly on the northerly and westerly lines of said Blaisdell's land, to the highway near the cemetery, thence on said highway to the corner between land of Albert Blake and Frederick Bartlett, thence southerly on said Blakes' westerly line, to the north westerly corner of said Blake's land, thence easterly on the southerly line of said Blake's land to land of Stephen A. Oakley, thence southerly on the westerly line of said Oakley's land, and the westerly lines of land of George W. Sumner and heirs of S. S. Southard and easterly on said Southard's easterly line to land of Abram Dolloff, thence easterly on said Dolloff's southerly line to said Pemigewasset river, thence up said river to the bound begun at.

Witness our hands this 31st day of March, 1871.

Wm. A. Berry,        }  
Geo. T. Crawford, } Selectmen of  
                              } Bristol.

These bounds were later so changed as to include the paper mills of Mason-Perkins Paper company and the farm of John F. Cass.

A meeting of the voters of the precinct was held at the town hall, Apr. 18, 1871, when William A. Berry was chosen moderator, and George H. Fowler, clerk. It was then voted to accept the bounds fixed by the selectmen ; to pay firemen twenty-five cents per hour for attendance on regular meetings of the company, and forty cents per hour when at fires. George T. Crawford, Robert S. Hastings, and Benjamin F. Perkins were elected firewards. In March, following, the town voted to assist the fire precinct to the extent of \$2,000 in the amount expended or to be expended for the protection of the village from fire.

In the summer of 1878, a new force-pump with a capacity of 750 gallons per minute replaced the old pump on Central street, and, in 1886, a new Hunt wheel took the place of the old wheel to drive the pump, greatly increasing its efficiency. This change cost \$250. Later, the old pump was placed in the

building now owned by Calley & Currier on the south side of the river, and a pipe laid from it to the west side of South Main street. In 1889, the new force-pump was removed from the grist-mill to the pulp-mill of the Train-Smith company, at the invitation of this company, and was connected with a 400-horse-power wheel. Four hundred feet of six-inch iron pipe was laid to connect this pump with the pipe already laid in Central street and Central square. This change greatly enlarged the capacity of this pump. That year, the present engine-house was built, 28 x 42 feet, two stories. The bell, presented by the Bristol Water Power company, is the same as hung in the belfry of the old woolen-mill near the railroad station.

In 1885, the question of a water supply from Newfound lake, or some other source, was agitated. Meetings were held by the precinct to consider the matter, and a committee, consisting of John H. Brown, M. W. White, and B. F. Perkins, was appointed to investigate the subject and report. This committee reported in favor of a supply from the lake. This agitation resulted in the formation of the Bristol Aqueduct company in March, 1886, which put in a system of water works from the lake the following summer.

The precinct contracted with this company for water to supply twenty-five hydrants at an annual rental of thirty dollars each. This contract continued for ten years, during which time the number of hydrants was increased to thirty-three. At the end of this time, a difference of opinion existed between the precinct and the aqueduct company as to what the service was worth, and a new contract was not made till 1899. A contract was then signed under which the aqueduct company was to furnish water for thirty-three hydrants, for ten years, at twenty dollars per hydrant per year; the precinct to take water for flushing sewers and sprinkling streets without extra charge.

In 1896, the Gamewell electric system of fire alarm was installed.

The facilities of the fire district for extinguishing fires consist of thirty-three hydrants located in different parts of the village, the hand-engine purchased in 1858, a Bangor aerial truck, and 2,500 feet of hose. The personnel of the fire department consists of three firewards, the Bristol Fire Engine company, and the Bristol Hose company, No. 2. The engine company is composed, nominally, of forty men, of which Frank Roby is the present foreman. The hose company is composed of fourteen men, who have entire charge of the hose attached to the hydrants at time of fire. Clarence A. Smith is foreman, and Fred L. King is assistant.

Following is a list of firewards. The date at the left shows the year when elected; the figures at the right indicate the number of consecutive years served.

## Firewards

1871	George T. Crawford		1886	Benjamin L. Wells	
	Robert S. Hastings	2		Charles H. Proctor	
	Benjamin F. Perkins		1887	John S. Conner	6
1872	Charles Forrest	2		George C. Currier	5
	Ebenezer K. Pray	2	1888	Marshall Ballou	3
1873	Joseph D. Kelley	7	1891	Charles P. George	
1874	Green L. Tilton	2	1892	Arthur Hutchinson	
	Robert M. Mason	2		Clarence A. Smith	
1876	Robert S. Hastings	2	1893	Homer Roby	6
	George M. Wooster	3		Rufus D. Brown	3
1878	George W. Dow			George S. Tilton	4
1879	Robert S. Hastings	3	1896	Simeon H. Cross	
	John W. Wells	2	1897	Ira B. Burpee	3
1880	Rufus D. Brown	4		Clarence A. Smith	4
1881	Clarence N. Merrill	3	1899	Albro Wells	
1882	John W. Wells		1900	Charles W. Fling	3
1883	Benjamin L. Wells	4	1901	Ira B. Burpee	
1884	John W. Wells			Joseph H. Breck	
	Frank P. Fields	2	1902	Clarence A. Smith	
1885	Rufus D. Brown	3		Ansel G. Dolloff	

## THE BRISTOL AQUEDUCT COMPANY

The Bristol Aqueduct company was organized Mar. 31, 1886, with a capital of \$20,000, divided into 400 shares of \$50 each. The following were the incorporators: Josiah Minot, George M. Cavis, Cyrus Taylor, Richard W. Musgrove, Jeremiah A. Haynes, William A. Berry, Charles W. Fling, Clarence N. Merrill, Edward M. Drake, Benjamin F. Perkins, Frank P. Fields, David Mason, Ira A. Chase, Gustavus B. Sanborn.

The first annual meeting was held June 10, 1886, when the following directors were elected: G. M. Cavis, B. F. Perkins, Cyrus Taylor, W. A. Berry, R. W. Musgrove, I. A. Chase, C. W. Fling. B. F. Perkins was elected president; G. M. Cavis, treasurer, and I. A. Chase, secretary.

The pipe was laid in the summer of 1886, from the lake to the village by Goodhue & Birnie, under contract. John H. Brown represented the aqueduct company as superintendent, assisted by M. W. White and B. F. Perkins. The pipe laid was mostly sheet-iron and cement, and its durability has shown the wisdom of its use. Iron pipe was used from the lake to the gate-house, in crossing streams and in some other places. The size of the pipe used was fourteen inches from the intake in the lake to the gate-house; from the gate-house to Union street, ten inches; thence to Central square it is eight inches via Lake street, and six inches via North Main street. These two pipes



unite at Central square. A six-inch pipe also crosses the river near the stable of John W. Wilbur & Co., to supply the territory south of the river. The remainder of the pipe is mainly four inches.

The water of Newfound lake is of exceptional purity, as has been demonstrated by analysis, and Bristol is favored with a water supply that is not surpassed by the most favored town or city in the state. Besides supplying the fire precinct with water for fire purposes, the company supplies two-thirds or more of the families of the village with water for domestic uses. The fall from the crest of the dam at the lake to Central square is 125 feet.

The present officers of this company are Karl G. Cavis, president; secretary and treasurer, Marshall W. White; directors, Karl G. Cavis, Benjamin F. Perkins, Marshall W. White, Frank P. Fields, Richard S. Danforth, Dr. Ferdinand A. Stilings, and Ira A. Chase. George M. Cavis was treasurer till his death in 1891, and Mr. White has since filled this position, Smith D. Fellows was superintendent till 1898, when he was succeeded by Ira B. Burpee, who still fills this position.

## CHAPTER XXXVI

### ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY, TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES

What hath God wrought.

—*Morse.*

#### THE BRISTOL ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY

In the fall of 1889, Col. Samuel P. Train, of Boston, proposed to erect an electric light plant in Bristol and light the streets of the village with fifty 32-candle-power lamps for \$500 per annum for ten years. The voters of the town met in town meeting, Oct. 16, of that year, for the purpose of considering this proposition. Only 166 voters were present, and as money could not be raised at a special town meeting except one-half of the legal voters (225) of the town were present, the meeting adjourned to Oct. 26. At the adjourned meeting it was voted, 234 in favor and none against, "that the town appropriate \$500 annually for ten years for lighting the streets of the village with electricity," and "that the selectmen be fully empowered to negotiate with Col. Samuel P. Train, or any other responsible party, to light the village of Bristol for ten years, at a sum not exceeding \$500 per year."

Through the efforts of George A. Emerson, Esq., a local company was organized with a capital of \$8,000, divided into 160 shares of \$50 each. The incorporators were Cyrus Taylor, Charles H. Dickinson, Charles Boardman, Franklin Fogg, Seymour H. Dodge, Ira A. Chase, Albert Blake, Charles H. Whittton, Charles H. Tukey, Herbert H. Follansbee, William A. Berry, Frank A. Gordon, Charles W. Fling, David Mason, Lewis W. Fling, Benjamin F. Perkins, George A. Emerson, Marshall W. White, George H. Calley, Sam Follansbee, Frank S. Kirk, Smith D. Fellows, Richard S. Danforth, Orrin B. Ray, Kenson E. Dearborn, Austin H. Roby.

The company organized Nov. 6, 1889, by the election of the following directors: George A. Emerson, Esq., David Mason, Marshall W. White, George C. Currier, Dr. George H. Calley, Henry C. Whipple, and Ira A. Chase, Esq. The directors organized with the choice of Mr. Emerson as president, and Mr. Currier, vice-president. Austin H. Roby was elected secretary and treasurer, but he left town soon after, and these positions have since been filled by David M. Calley.

The dynamo was placed in the basement of Taylor & Gordon's shop and started in March, following, water-power being obtained at a rental of one dollar per day, on a ten years' lease. In June, 1899, the company purchased the Rollins saw-mill and privilege of N. B. Cloutman for \$2,500, and erected, a few rods below the site of the old mill, a new dam and a brick power-house, 32 x 48 feet, one story, in which was placed a new alternating two-phase dynamo, of the capacity of 150 kilowatts, of 16,000 frequency, eight poles, 1,000 revolutions, and capable of producing from each phase 1,200 sixteen-candle-power lights at the switch-board, with a voltage of 2,400. The power to operate this dynamo is a double thirty-three-inch Hunt wheel, under fourteen feet head, having a capacity of 175 horse-power. The dam was constructed under the supervision of Clarence N. Merrill; the dynamo was set up, placed in running order and connections made by George A. Emerson, assisted by George F. Buttrick. These improvements involved an expenditure of \$20,000; and the capital of the company was increased to \$16,000.

Soon after this plant was completed, the company sold to a company in New Hampton electric current sufficient for three hundred sixteen-candle-power lamps for \$700 annually. The line to New Hampton was erected a few months later, and New Hampton village is now lighted with electricity generated at the power-house in Bristol. The Bristol Electric Light company now furnishes Bristol with eighty-eight street lamps of thirty-two-candle-power at an annual rental of fourteen dollars each. A large number of residences, places of business, and public buildings are lighted with the electric current. For some years the current has been supplied all night.

The present board of directors has served several years and is as follows: George A. Emerson, Esq., George C. Currier, Simeon H. Cross, Clarence N. Merrill, Dr. Channing Bishop, Charles Boardman, and Charles H. Dickinson.

#### TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE LINES

The first telegraph wire to Bristol was put up, about 1870, by the Northern Telegraph company. The line was erected along the highway from the south. This company was absorbed a few years later by the Atlantic and Pacific, which extended the line to Haverhill and St. Johnsbury, Vt. The Atlantic and Pacific was absorbed by the Western Union, and in September, 1879, the line north of Bristol was discontinued, and the line on the south removed from the highway to the railroad. The first telegraph office was in Cyrus Taylor's store, and Henry A. Taylor was the operator. After a while, it was removed to the drug store of Edward S. Foster; thence to the store of Oscar L. Rand in the Rollins block. Charles H. Dick-

inson succeeded Mr. Rand as agent, about 1874, and removed the office to White's block where he still retains it.

The Tilton & New Hampton Telegraph and Telephone company extended a telegraph line to Bristol in the summer of 1892. A year or two later, this became a telephone line and is still used as such. In 1894, the Bell Telephone company opened a public office in George H. Kendall's store, and the next year George A. Robie established a local line in Bristol, Bridgewater, Hebron, and Alexandria. Mr. Robie united his line with the Bell Telephone line for outside business, in August, 1899, with the exchange located in his store on Pleasant street, which is still continued.

Various local and outside companies have obtained rights to erect wires and transact business in town, but only the above named have established lines.



## CHAPTER XXXVII

### FRATERNAL SOCIETIES

A friend should bear his friend's infirmities.

—*Shakespeare.*

#### MASONIC FRATERNITY

Organized Free Masonry in Bristol has had a history of thirty-eight years. Aug. 10, 1865, a dispensation was granted by Worshipful Grand Master J. E. Sargent for an organization of Masons in Bristol, which was effected. William A. Berry was elected W. M. ; Ira S. Chase, S. W. ; Moses H. Merrow, J. W. ; Cyrus Taylor, treasurer, and Levi D. Johnson, secretary. A goodly number of Masons were raised and the foundations laid for the large and prosperous lodge that exists to-day. The charter for Union Lodge, No. 79, was granted June 13, 1866, by Most Worshipful Grand Master John H. Rowell. The charter members consisted of those named above and Valorus A. Seavey, Edwin C. Lewis, James C. Parker, Horace L. Ingalls, Jason C. Draper, Lewis W. Fling, Samuel K. Mason, William Dyer, George M. Cavis, Marshall W. White, Oscar F. Fowler, Lorenzo D. Day, Hadley B. Fowler, Oscar F. Morse, Hosea Q. Sargent, and George M. Wooster. The organization under the charter occurred June 22, 1866, when the same officers were elected as had been serving under the dispensation and they were installed the same day. The first communication was held in a hall in the second story of Rollins's block and the lodge had its home there for about four years, when it removed to a hall over the town hall. In December, 1871, the records of the lodge, which were in the possession of its secretary, Allen W. Bingham, were destroyed by fire.

Feb. 4, 1873, the lodge removed to a hall in the attic of what is now Robie's block, occupying it in common with Cardigan Lodge, I. O. O. F. This event was appropriately celebrated. A special communication was held at two o'clock for the purpose of conferring the third degree of Masonry. At five o'clock a banquet was served by the ladies of the Congregational society in vestry hall, in the same block, to which the wives, daughters, and sisters of Masons were invited. Following the banquet, a public installation of the officers-elect took place at the town hall to which the general public was invited. This was followed by an admirable address on "Historic Masonry,"

by Rev. Silas Ketchum, of Bristol, chaplain of the Grand Lodge. A pleasant feature of the day was the presentation to the lodge, by the widow of the late Brother S. B. Dow, of a sword carried by him to all parts of the world in his voyages as captain of a merchant vessel. This sword has been constantly used since by the tyler in the discharge of his duties.

In January, 1876, Union Lodge and Cardigan Lodge removed from Robie's block to a larger and more convenient hall in Post-office block. This removal was also appropriately celebrated, and at the first communication held in this hall, Jan. 14, there was a public installation of its officers, and a banquet was served at Hotel Bristol. In this hall the lodge had two years of prosperity and pleasant relations with its fellow occupants, but the remodeling of Abel's block afforded an opportunity to obtain a hall for its exclusive use, and Sept. 27, 1878, the lodge leased this new hall for five years, at seventy-five dollars a year, and it was fitted for its special use. The walls and ceiling were finely frescoed with masonic emblems, and it was furnished at a cost of about \$500.

On the 3rd of December, at 4 p. m., a special communication was held in the new hall for the purpose of dedicating it in due and ancient form to Masonic uses. The following Grand Lodge officers officiated: Solon A. Carter, M. W. G. M.; supported by W. A. Clough, Jun. G. D.; J. Frank Webster, S. G. D.; A. W. Baker, J. G. W.; Horace A. Brown, S. G. W.; John H. Rowell, D. G. M.; John C. Neal, master of oldest lodge; Chas. N. Towle, G. T.; Jas. W. Hildreth, G. M.; F. B. Cochran, E. C. Lewis, G. S.; Robert Ford, G. P.; Joseph Kidder, G. C.; Ira A. Chase, orator; George P. Cleaves, G. S.; C. C. Danforth, G. T.; Frank H. Daniell, S. Condon, Jr., G. S. These ceremonies over, the lodge was called from labor to refreshments, and marched with their ladies to the vestry of the M. E. church, where a banquet was served. Later, a social hour was passed at the town hall and there was speaking by visiting brethren and others, and singing.

When the new bank block was erected, in 1893, Union Lodge leased the entire third story, and the rooms were arranged and finished on plans furnished by the lodge. These rooms consist of main hall 32 x 40 feet, with large reception and preparation rooms, kitchen, and banquet hall all connected. All the rooms are finished in cypress and are finely furnished, and the walls of each are frescoed, those of the main hall having masonic designs as has also the carpet on the floor. All the rooms are heated by steam and lighted with electricity. The furniture, and in fact, all the paraphernalia of the lodge are first-class, and the rooms are, all things considered, among the finest in the state. There was expended in furnishing the hall, \$500.

Oct. 2, 1895, the hall was dedicated in due and ancient form

to the uses of Masonry. The ceremonies commenced at two o'clock at which time the lodge-room and the rooms adjoining were packed with Masons and their ladies. Union Lodge was opened without ceremony and the officers of the Grand Lodge were escorted in and took their respective stations as follows: C. C. Hayes, M. W. G. M.; H. A. Marsh, R. W. D. G. M.; John McLane, R. W. S. G. W.; John Pender, R. W. J. G. W.; George P. Cleaves, R. W. G. S.; Rev. H. B. Smith, R. W. G. C.; B. S. Kingsman, W. S. G. D.; John K. Wilson, W. J. G. D.; Charles C. Danforth, W. G. M.; Charles W. Fling, W. G. S. S.; Wilmer C. Cox, W. G. J. S.; David M. Calley, W. G. T.; William A. Berry, oldest master of the lodge; Richard W. Musgrove, G. P. Gen. John H. Brown represented the architect. The ceremonies of dedication followed, after which a fine address was delivered by Ira A. Chase, Esq. At six o'clock, a banquet was served in the lodge banqueting hall and in the hall below, where plates were laid for 150 people. After the banquet, a reception was tendered the grand master and other grand lodge officers. At seven o'clock, Worshipful Master Fred H. Ackerman rapped to order, and the program of the evening commenced. There were interesting remarks from all the grand lodge officers present and Congressman H. M. Baker. Then came a concert by the Adelina Concert company, whose music was exceptionally fine. Interspersed were vocal selections by Mrs. Katherine Prescott Crafts and Miss Annie E. Bailey, and impersonations by Karl Marshall White. Following the reception and concert, a ball was given at the town hall, which continued till twelve o'clock.

The lodge has had a prosperous career. The total number uniting with the lodge since its organization has been 223; the membership in January, 1903, was 111.

The following is a list of the masters and secretaries with year of election. In May, 1871, the date of election was changed from May to January and the first election thereafter occurred in January, 1873.

#### Masters

1866	William A. Berry	1879	Lucian A. Ballou
1867	Ira S. Chase	1880	John H. Brown
1868	Moses H. Merrow	1881	Ira A. Chase
1869	Marshall W. White	1882	George H. Calley
1870	Silas Ketchum	1883-84	Ira A. Chase
1871	Edwin C. Lewis	1885	John H. Brown
1873	Charles Forrest	1886	Charles W. Fling
1874	Henry A. Taylor	1887-88	Charles E. Mason
1875-76	Robert Ford	1889	Wilmer C. Cox
1877	Ira S. Chase	1890	Charles H. Whitton
1878	Joseph N. Dickinson	1891	Fred A. Spencer

1892-93	William C. White	1899	Channing Bishop
1894-95	Fred H. Ackerman	1900-01	Elbert E. Dickinson
1896-97	George B. Cavis	1902	Charles E. Davis
1898	Smith D. Fellows	1903	Charles W. Holmes

## Secretaries

1866-67	Levi D. Johnson	1889	Oscar W. Rice
1868	John P. Taylor	1890-91	Wilmer C. Cox
1869	Charles B. Dow	1892-95	Karl G. Cavis
1870-79	Allen W. Bingham	1896	Fred H. Ackerman
1880-84	Joseph N. Dickinson	1897-98	Charles W. Fling
1885	John R. Connor	1899-03	Joseph N. Dickinson
1886-88	John H. Brown		

Cyrus Taylor was the first treasurer of the lodge. He served two years and was succeeded by George M. Cavis, who served ten years; James M. Bishop, one year; Ebenezer K. Pray, six years; Robert A. Horner, four years, and Charles H. Dickinson, who has served the last thirteen years.

Union Lodge has been the only Masonic organization in town. There are, however, many Masons in town who are Knights Templar, members of Mount Horeb Commandery at Concord, and several who are members of other Masonic bodies.

## INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS

The first lodge of Odd Fellows in Bristol was Pemigewasset Lodge, No. 27. It was organized Feb. 1, 1849, and had a brief existence, disbanding in 1855. Cardigan Lodge, No. 38, was organized in Alexandria, July 15, 1851, and Promise Lodge, No. 39, at Hebron, Feb. 10, 1852. Cardigan Lodge was moved to Bristol in 1855, and Promise Lodge united with it in the early part of 1856. Cardigan Lodge had a fairly prosperous career and held regular meetings till 1865, but became dormant in 1866. It was resuscitated through the efforts of Grand Secretary Joseph Kidder, Oct. 2, 1871, and from that time till now has had a prosperous career. At its resuscitation the membership consisted of William A. Berry, Esq., George T. Crawford, Esq., Capt. Blake Fowler, Dr. Hadley B. Fowler, Joseph D. Kelley, Thomas E. Osgood, Moses B. Howe, Samuel Berry, and David S. Fowler.

This lodge held its meetings in a hall over the town hall till a hall was completed in the attic of Boardman's new block, now Robie's, in 1872, to which it removed, and there it remained till January, 1876, when it removed to a hall in Post-office block. It occupied this hall in connection with the Masons till the latter withdrew to the Abel block in September, 1878. Cardigan Lodge then refurnished its hall. The walls and ceiling were finely frescoed, an emblematic carpet placed on the floor, and a five-globe chandelier hung, the whole at a cost of \$700.



This hall was dedicated to the uses of Odd Fellowship, May 22, 1879. At this time, the various chairs were filled as follows: Rev. Luther T. McKinney, R. W. G. M.; Henry A. Randolph, grand marshal; H. B. Fowler, grand herald; William A. Berry, herald of the south; George H. Fowler, herald of the west; Frank R. Sawyer, herald of the east; Pettingill G. Carleton, herald of the north; Joseph Kidder, grand chaplain.

Following these ceremonies, 175 repaired to the vestries of the Free Baptist church and partook of a banquet. From the vestries all repaired to the town hall where a large audience had already gathered. Here Dr. H. B. Fowler presided. After a piano solo and a song by Mrs. R. W. Musgrove, Grand Master McKinney delivered an address on Odd Fellowship.

Aug. 5, 1889, Cardigan Lodge took a lease for a term of years of the second floor of Robie's block, which it still occupies. This floor consists of a suite of five rooms. The main hall is 28 x 35 feet; the parlor, connected by folding doors, 20 x 20 feet; it also has an ante-room, reception room, and property room. Altogether the rooms are among the best in the state. This lodge has a membership of 147.

In April, 1901, the lease was renewed, and between \$500 and \$600 was expended in refurnishing and beautifying the hall. A steel ceiling of attractive design was put in, a new carpet placed on the floor, new canopies erected, walls painted or papered, and electric lights put in. This event was celebrated, together with the eighty-second anniversary of the introduction of Odd Fellowship into the United States, on the evening of Apr. 26, by a fine concert in the hall given by the Imperial Hand Bell Ringers, and a banquet at Hotel Bristol, at which 175 plates were laid.

Among those who served as N. G. of Cardigan Lodge between 1855 and 1862 were Charles M. Rollins, Blake Fowler, James T. Sanborn, G. P. Gibbs, Samuel K. Mason, Edward Quinn, and Joseph F. Rollins.

Among those who served as N. G. of Promise Lodge or of Cardigan Lodge, previous to 1876, when the records are first available, are W. A. Berry, George T. Crawford, Samuel Page, David S. Fowler, Moses B. Howe, B. T. Marston, Thomas E. Osgood, D. B. Perkins, Henry A. Randolph, Simeon H. Cross, Meshech G. Chandler, Joseph D. Kelley, Samuel H. Rollins, George H. Fowler.

	Elected	Noble Grands	Secretaries
1876	First term	Robert S. Hastings	Kendrick S. Bullock
	Second term	Alfred P. Harriman	Albert Blake, Jr.
1877	First term	Charles B. Heath	Simeon H. Cross
	Second term	Woodbury Sleeper	Pettingill G. Carleton
1878	First term	Albert Blake, Jr.	Rufus D. Brown

1878	Second term	Pettingill G. Carleton	Milo H. Crosby
1879	First term	Rufus D. Brown	Frank A. Gordon
	Second term	Jeremiah A. Haynes	George S. Tilton
1880	First term	Frank A. Gordon	Ira C. Brock
	Second term	Frank A. Gordon	Ira C. Brock
1881	First term	Green L. Tilton	Frank W. Dimond
	Second term	George S. Tilton	Frank R. Sawyer
1882	First term	Weston Rowell	Charles W. Coolidge
	Second term	Frank W. Dimond	Calvin H. Martin
1883	First term	Frank G. Blake	Frank A. Gordon
	Second term	Hadley B. Fowler	Frank A. Gordon
1884	First term	Hadley B. Fowler	Frank A. Gordon
	Second term	Orrin Locke	Frank A. Gordon
1885	First term	Frank A. Gordon	Fred H. Briggs
	Second term	Frank A. Gordon	Frank C. Buttrick
1886	First term	Fred H. Briggs	Frank A. Gordon
	Second term	Frank P. Morrill	Channing Bishop
1887	First term	Quincy A. Ballou	Frank A. Gordon
	Second term	Horace H. Kirk	Frank A. Gordon
1888	First term	Green L. Tilton	Frank A. Gordon
	Second term	J. Dudley Webber	Fred H. Briggs
1889	First term	Charles D. Thyng	Fred H. Briggs
	Second term	A. C. Kenyon	Austin H. Roby
1890	First term	David Perkins	Harry W. Tilton
	Second term	Charles L. Follansbee	George S. Tilton
1891	First term	Channing Bishop	George S. Tilton
	Second term	Frank C. Buttrick	George S. Tilton
1892	First term	Frank S. Kirk	George S. Tilton
	Second term	Orlando B. French	George S. Tilton
1893	First term	Harry W. Tilton	George S. Tilton
	Second term	Homer Roby	George S. Tilton
1894	First term	C. Aaron Southard	George S. Tilton
	Second term	George H. Kendall	George S. Tilton
1895	First term	Arthur Hutchinson	Homer Roby
	Second term	Charles H. Marston	Homer Roby
1896	First term	Don A. Burpee	Homer Roby
	Second term	Charles W. Holmes	Homer Roby
1897	First term	Ansel G. Dolloff	Charles H. Marston
	Second term	David M. Calley	Charles H. Marston
1898	First term	Walter W. Favor	Charles H. Marston
	Second term	Fred A. Philbrook	Charles H. Marston
1899	First term	Frank Lamprey	David Perkins
	Second term	John H. Kidder	David H. Goodhue
1900	First term	Elbridge S. Bickford	David H. Goodhue
	Second term	John J. Bryson	David Perkins
1901	First term	John J. Bryson	Frank A. Gordon
	Second term	Ai B. Smith	David Perkins
1902	First term	Alonzo H. Worthley	David Perkins

1902	Second term	Charles H. Tukey	David Perkins
1903	First term	Arthur H. Morrill	David Perkins

## PROMISE LODGE, NO. 12, DAUGHTERS OF REBEKAH

Promise Degree Lodge, No. 12, Daughters of Rebekah, was instituted as an adjunct to Cardigan Lodge, I. O. O. F., Feb. 3, 1876, with the following charter members: Robert S. Hastings, Kendrick S. Bullock, David S. Fowler, Charles B. Heath, Woodbury Sleeper, Green L. Tilton, Simeon H. Cross, Milo H. Crosby, Burley M. Ames, James A. Curtice, Mrs. Jane B. Burley, Mrs. Harriet B. Crosby, Mrs. Mary J. Heath, Mrs. Mary A. Ames, Mrs. Martha D. Alexander, Mrs. Julia A. Hastings, Mrs. Martha A. Brown, Mrs. Julia A. Cross, Mrs. Mary J. Fowler, Mrs. Annie C. Sleeper, Mrs. Almira E. Bullock, Sidney A. Brown, Joseph D. Kelley, James W. Burley.

This lodge uses the same hall as Cardigan Lodge, has had a prosperous existence, and now numbers 101 members. The following have served as noble grand and secretary:

## Noble Grands

1876	Hadley B. Fowler	1889	Sarah Fowler
1877	Joseph D. Kelley	1890	Kate E. Wilbur
1878	Henry A. Randolph	1891-92	Sarah E. Robie
	Martha D. Alexander	1893	Caroline D. Thyng
1879	Olive M. Sawyer	1894	Mary E. Favor
1879-80	Annie C. Sleeper	1895	Florence D. Tilton
1881	Jeremiah A. Haynes	1896	Sadie V. Burley
1882	Martha D. Alexander	1897	Harriet E. Webber
1883	Jane B. Burley	1898	Sarah E. Robie
1884	Julia A. Hastings	1899	Ida M. Calley
1885	Sarah Fowler	1900-01	Kate E. Wilbur
1886	Hadley B. Fowler	1902	Sarah Fowler
1887	Charles B. Heath	1903	Liller J. Sarsons
1888	Hulda B. Rollins		

## Secretaries

1876	Annie C. Sleeper	1888	Julia A. Cross
1877	Mary J. Heath	1889-90	Josephine M. Hazelton
1878	Mary A. Ames	1891	Mary E. Favor
1879	Harriet A. Haynes	1892	Florence D. Tilton
	Jane B. Burley	1893-94	Sadie V. Burley
1880	Jane B. Burley	1895	Sarah E. Robie
1881	Olive M. Sawyer	1896	Mary E. Moshier
1882	Sarah Locke	1897	Sarah E. Robie
1883-84	Harriet A. Haynes	1898-99	Della A. Briggs
1885-86	Kate E. Wilbur	1900-01	Myrtie Bryson
1887	Mamie E. Taylor	1902-03	May F. Clark

## NELSON POST, NO. 40, G. A. R.

Nelson Post, No. 40, Grand Army of the Republic, was organized in Bristol by Capt. C. J. Richards, department commander, and other department officers and visiting comrades, on Thursday evening, Aug. 8, 1878. The Post was named in honor of Albert and Dan Nelson, of Bristol, brothers, who lost their lives at Chancellorsville. The following were the charter members: Richard W. Musgrove, William A. Beckford, Hadley B. Fowler, Moody O. Edgerly, Charles N. Drake, Henry A. Sanborn, Timothy Tilton, Henry A. Randolph, Oliver P. Hall, William F. Hanaford, George C. Breck, Stephen D. Huse, Horace L. Ingalls, Enos B. Ferrin, James W. Burley, Charles B. Heath, M. E. Southworth, Benj. E. Blackstone, Benj. Swett, Frank A. Ferrin.

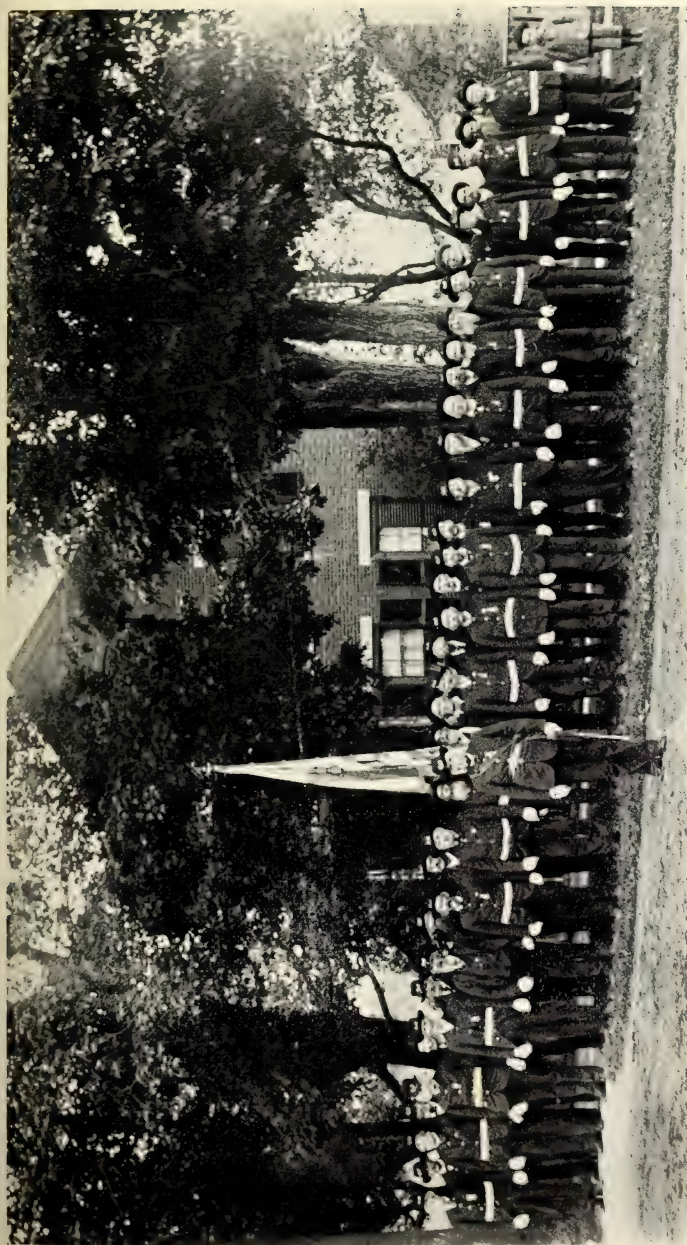
Twenty-one comrades were initiated, after which the following officers were elected and installed: Post commander, R. W. Musgrove; senior vice-commander, W. A. Beckford; junior vice-commander, M. O. Edgerly; adjutant, C. N. Drake; quartermaster, Timothy Tilton; surgeon, H. B. Fowler; chaplain, Henry A. Randolph; sergeant-major, William F. Hanaford; quartermaster-sergeant, Henry A. Sanborn.

Cardigan Lodge, I. O. O. F., loaned the use of its hall in Post-office block for this and one or two subsequent meetings. The Post then hired a hall over a store-house of Cyrus Taylor on Pleasant street, where it continued to hold meetings till the spring of 1895, when it hired of the Knights of Pythias the same hall its first meeting was held in.

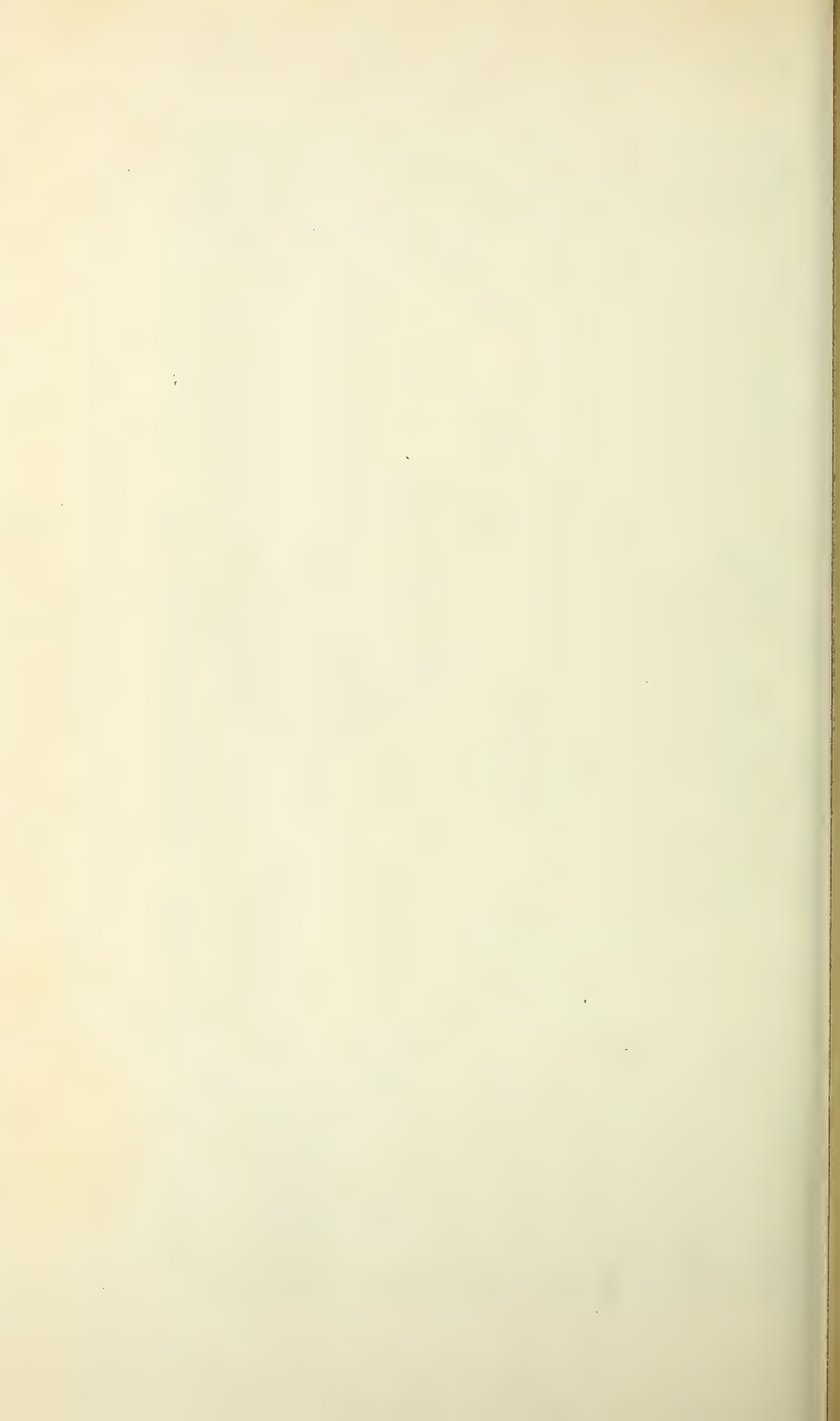
This organization has had a prosperous existence and a warm place in the respect and affections of the people. Its membership at the end of the first year was eighty. From that time till now, owing to deaths and withdrawals, there has been a gradual loss, till now the membership is only thirty-five.

This Post has done a good work in looking after needy veterans and their families. It has observed Memorial Day each year in a fitting manner. Its usual exercises on that day have been a visit to Hill in the morning, assisting in the services there. At 2 p. m., in Bristol, a parade occurs with martial music, the school children often participating, brief exercises at the soldiers' monument with an address to the unknown dead, the decoration of the graves of deceased soldiers with flags and flowers at the roll of the drum; a return to Central square or town hall where an oration is delivered either immediately following or in the evening. These services are always attended by a large and interested concourse of people. At first the expenses of the day were paid by contributions, but soon the town made an appropriation of \$50 and later \$60 each year to pay the expenses.





NELSON POST, G. A. R., MEMORIAL DAY, 1892



## Commanders

1878	Richard W. Musgrove	1891-92	Daniel K. Cummings
1879	William A. Beckford	1893	George H. Fleer
1880	Moody O. Edgerly	1894	Alonzo H. Worthley
1881-84	Charles N. Drake	1895	George W. Dimond
1885	James W. Saunders	1896	George C. Currier
1886	William C. Sargent	1897	George D. MacLinn
1887	Charles H. Proctor	1898-99	John F. Phillips
1888	Simeon H. Cross	1900	William F. Hanaford
1889	Timothy Tilton	1901-02	Edwin O. Marden
1890	Reuben H. Jaquith	1903	William C. Kelley

## Adjutants

1878	Charles N. Drake	1887	Harvey W. Drew
1879	Charles B. Heath	1888	James W. Saunders
1880	Henry A. Randolph	1889	Charles N. Drake
1881	Charles S. Brown	1890	Frank A. Gordon
1882	Harvey W. Drew	1891	James W. Saunders
1883	Charles H. Proctor	1892-93	George C. Currier
1884-85	Charles B. Heath	1894-03	James W. Saunders
1886	Charles N. Drake		

## NELSON POST RELIEF CORPS

Nelson Post Relief Corps was organized in Grand Army hall Aug. 4, 1884, by Mrs. Celia F. P. Foster of Milford, department secretary. The following were the charter members: Philinda Sanborn, Hattie A. Drake, Jennie N. Kidder, Emma M. Cummings, Ruth P. Brown, Ellen M. Cummings, Jane B. Burley, Ellen F. Pattee, Amanda G. Hanaford, Mary M. Page, Ida A. Calley, Lizzie Sargent, Antionette E. Fleer, Anna M. Hutchinson, Minnie Walker, Abbie F. Proctor, Harriet Twombly, Sara J. Littlefield, Jane Everleth, Lovina W. Kirk, Laurilla P. Cross, Angie M. Heath, Mary Keaton, Annetta Favor, Abbie Colby.

The following officers were elected and installed: President, Philinda Sanborn; S. V., Hattie A. Drake; J. V., Jennie N. Kidder; secretary, Emma M. Cummings; treasurer, Ellen M. Cummings; chaplain, Ruth P. Brown; guardian, Ellen F. Pattee.

## Presidents

1884-85	Philinda Sanborn	1895	Mary J. Saunders
1886	Jane B. Burley	1896-97	Ellen M. Cummings
1887-88	Jennie N. Kidder	1898-99	Amanda G. Hanaford
1889-90	Lizzie Sargent	1900-01	Sadie V. Huckins
1891	Ellen F. Pattee	1902	Sarah E. Seaver
1892	Emma M. Kendall	1903	Liller J. Sarsons
1893-94	Antoinette E. Fleer		

## Secretaries.

1884-85	Emma M. Cummings	1895	Ellen F. Pattee
1886	Emma M. Kendall	1896	Emma M. Kendall
1887-90	Jane B. Burley	1897-99	Abbie F. Grey
1891	Linnie M. Smith	1900	Ellen M. Cummings
1892-93	Ellen M. Cummings	1901	Amanda G. Hanaford
1894	Jennie N. Kidder	1902-03	Zenna M. Fleer

## NEWFOUND LAKE GRANGE

Newfound Lake Grange, No. 162, was organized by Emri C. Hutchinson, secretary of the state grange, Mar. 17, 1891, with the following charter members: Calvin H. Martin, Zerah E. Tilton, George D. Judkins, Warren F. Keezer, Silas S. Brown, Solon Dolloff, Woodbury Sleeper, William J. Sullivan, Horace N. Emmons, Fred B. Buttrick, Alvertus N. McMurphy, George W. Morrill, Charles H. Morrill, Perley H. Sleeper, Enos B. Ferrin, Mrs. Silas S. Brown, Mrs. Woodbury Sleeper, Mrs. Horace N. Emmons, Mrs. Helen Judkins, Mrs. Hannah Morrill, Mrs. Georgia Tilton, Mrs. Lizzie Foster, Mrs. Calvin H. Martin, Mrs. Jennie McMurphy.

The officers at organization were: Calvin H. Martin, master; Zerah E. Tilton, overseer; George D. Judkins, lecturer; Warren F. Keyser, steward; Alvertus N. McMurphy, assistant steward; Silas S. Brown, chaplain; Solon Dolloff, treasurer; Woodbury Sleeper, secretary; William J. Sullivan, gatekeeper; Mrs. Georgia Tilton, Ceres; Mrs. Lizzie Foster, Pomona; Mrs. Calvin H. Martin, Flora; Mrs. Jennie McMurphy, lady assistant steward; Horace N. Emmons, Fred B. Buttrick, and Alvertus N. McMurphy, executive committee.

This grange has had a prosperous existence. It has held each year at the town hall a highly creditable grange fair. Its meetings are held on Friday evening of each week in a hall in Robie's block, and are of a social and literary nature, and topics of practical importance to the farmer are discussed. Its present membership is 132.

## Masters

1891-92	Calvin H. Martin	1898	Daniel K. Cummings
1893	Zerah E. Tilton	1899	Zerah E. Tilton
1894	Woodbury Sleeper	1900-01	Solon Dolloff
1895	Warren F. Keezer	1902-03	Frank G. Bartlett
1896-97	Alvertus N. McMurphy		

## Secretaries

1891-93	Woodbury Sleeper	1898	Alonzo B. Gale
1894	John R. Connor	1899	Edwin C. Merrill
1895	Calvin H. Martin	1900	Fred E. Seaver
1896-97	Edwin C. Merrill	1901-03	Jennie McMurphy



## LAKE AND VALLEY POMONA GRANGE

Lake and Valley Pomona Grange was organized at the town hall, Bristol, May 14, 1901, by George R. Drake, of Manchester, representative of the state grange, assisted by Charles S. Ford, of Lebanon, Pomona deputy, and Richard Pattee of New Hampton, district deputy. The officers elected and installed were: H. Taylor Heath, Bristol, master; Albert E. Moore, Hebron, overseer; Richard Pattee, New Hampton, lecturer; Hadley B. Worthen, New Hampton, assistant lecturer; Frank R. Woodward, Hill, chaplain; H. Elgin Wells, Alexandria, steward; Mrs. Jennie McMurphy, South Alexandria, secretary; Solon Dolloff, Bristol, treasurer; Harris W. Hammond, Bridgewater, assistant steward; Mrs. Sarah Fowler, Bristol, Pomona; Mrs. Ned Emery, Alexandria, Flora; Mrs. Clara P. Fifield, Bridgewater, Ceres; Lucy M. Favor, Bristol, lady assistant steward.

This grange is composed of members of the following subordinate granges: Newfound Lake grange, of Bristol; New Hampton grange; Cardigan, of Alexandria; Olive Branch, of Hebron; Pasquaney, of Bridgewater, and Pemigewasset, of Hill. It holds a meeting each quarter with such subordinate lodge as may extend an invitation, and a yearly meeting. Its headquarters are at Bristol. At its organization it had ninety-five charter members, and in January, 1903, had a membership of 231.

## KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

Bristol Lodge, No. 46, Knights of Pythias, was organized Nov. 8, 1894, with the following charter members: George H. Calley, Charles A. Nelson, Horace C. Yeaton, William A. Beckford, Charles L. Kemp, Otis F. Cross, Amos A. Blake, W. S. H. Remick, Olin Bert Sanders, Napoleon B. Giguere, John A. Favor, William George, Horace H. Kirk, Charles E. Rounds, Dudley K. Blake, Edward E. Wheet, Frank S. Kirk, John F. Phillips, Frank S. Webster, William A. Phillips, John W. Sanborn, Herbert L. Phillips, Hiram M. Worthley, Fred S. Fall, William J. Sullivan, George H. Fowler, Charles N. Drake, James W. Saunders, Quincy A. Ballou.

This is a benevolent and fraternal organization. The Bristol lodge has had a prosperous career and Jan. 1, 1895, received from Grand Chancellor Frank M. Beckford, a prize banner for having made the largest gain in membership of any lodge in the state during the year 1894. Its meetings are held in the hall in Post-office block.

## Chancellor Commanders

1894-5	George H. Calley	1897	Quincy A. Ballou
1896	Charles A. Nelson	1898	W. S. H. Remick
	Horace C. Yeaton		William J. Sullivan
1897	Fred S. Fall	1899	William J. Sullivan

1899	Sebastian S. Quint	1901	Arthur Jewell
1900	William G. McCrillis	1902	Hiram M. Worthley
	Fred W. Simonds		Stephen Valla
1901	Ansel G. Dolloff	1903	Frank H. Fleer

## Keeper of Records

1897-1903	James W. Saunders		
1894-5	Charles L. Kemp	1896	Ulysses G. Buxton

## ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN

Merrill Lodge, No. 23, Ancient Order of United Workmen was organized in Bristol, May 1, 1895, with the following officers: Charles W. Fling, P. M. W.; Channing Bishop, M. W.; Amasa S. Hilands, F.; Albro Wells, O.; Louis S. Robie, recorder; Charles W. W. Pope, financier; Orlando B. French, receiver; Walter W. Favor, guide; Albon M. Simonds, I. W.; Quincy A. Ballou, O. W.

This is a fraternal beneficiary organization and meets twice each month in Knights of Pythias hall.

Its present officers are: Stephen F. Hammond, P. M. W.; Quincy A. Ballou, M. W.; Albro Wells, F.; Louis S. Robie, O.; Walter W. Favor, financier; Charles W. Fling, receiver; Channing Bishop, recorder; Charles W. W. Pope, guide; William C. White, I. W.; Frank H. Fleer, O. W.

## KNIGHTS OF THE MACCABEES

Red Oak Lodge, No. 26, Knights of the Maccabees, was instituted in Bristol, Feb. 24, 1902. The present officers are: William S. Boswell, past commander; Charles C. Martin, commander; Burton E. Foss, lieutenant; F. L. King, record-keeper and financier; Dr. J. W. Coolidge, medical examiner and chaplain; Samuel L. Pierce, sergeant; Leon H. Grey, master-at-arms; A. H. Tibbetts, sentinel.

## CHAPTER XXXVIII

### FARMS AND FARMING

Farther down, on the slope of the hill, was the well with its moss-grown Bucket, fastened with iron, and near it a trough for the horses.

—*Longfellow.*

In the early days of the town, farming was its chief industry. Manufacturing was largely confined to sawing lumber and grinding grain for domestic use. The pasturage of the farms was extensive, and supported large herds of cattle and flocks of sheep, the sale of which constituted one of the chief sources of income from the farms. On every farm sufficient hay was cut to winter the stock and to furnish some for the local market. Wheat, rye, and corn supplied the table and fattened the stock and swine for market. Wood from the forest supplied fuel for the huge fireplaces and found a market in the village. The food that was consumed and the clothes worn were the products of the farm. At all seasons of the year, the farmer's life was one of incessant toil from morning till night.

On the incorporation of Bristol, there were only thirty-five taxpayers residing in the village district, and a part of these were farmers; outside of the village there were eighty-five taxpayers, nearly all of whom were farmers. The number of farmers continued to increase till 1848, when it reached its highest point, 186. About that time emigration from New Hampshire commenced on an extensive scale, and many left the hill farms of Bristol for the prairie farms of the West. In later years, village and city life have drawn many from the farms, and the decrease in the farming population has been constant till now, while the population of the village has constantly increased. In 1902, there were 580 taxpayers in town, but the number of farmers was no more than in 1820.

The greatest change in the farming community has taken place in and near the Locke neighborhood. Where once was a thriving community with a large school, religious privileges, and social activity, there are now three or four isolated farms that are inhabited. One pasture, lying partly in Bristol and partly in Bridgewater, contains what was once thirteen farms, each of which supported a large family. The highway where once rode the post-rider, and which was once an avenue for commerce, is now crossed by a stone wall. Apple orchards are struggling for existence among rapidly growing forest trees, and rose bushes

mark the spots where farmhouses once sheltered life and activity. Much of these abandoned farms are now growing up to forest.

Cattle are now rarely raised for market. The keeping of sheep, once a prominent industry, is now almost unknown. In 1844, there were 1,265 sheep taxed in Bristol; in 1902, only 119. The spinning-wheel and the loom have disappeared and in their places are seen the sewing-machine, silks and cassimeres, and on the once sanded floor is a carpet from the factory. Scarcely a field of wheat has been seen in town for many years, flour from the West having taken the place of domestic wheat. Pressed hay from Canada supplies the local market, and even fertilizers are purchased for the farm. Stoves have superseded the roaring fireplaces, and many homes are heated with coal from the mines of Pennsylvania. The mowing-machine has taken the place of the scythe, and the horse tedder, the hand rake. The farmer of to-day lives in environments and in a civilization unknown to the farmers of even fifty years ago.

More attention is now given to fruit culture and dairy farming than ever before. Apples for market are now raised on nearly every farm. The Baldwin is the favorite variety for export, but it is supplemented with the Gravenstein, Nonesuch, Porter, the Rhode Island Greening, Nod-head, Blue Pearmain, and a few other varieties. No success has been attained in the raising of pears, peaches, or small fruit on the soil of Bristol. In 1902, there were shipped from the railroad station in Bristol, about 10,000 barrels of apples raised in Bristol and adjoining towns. In 1902, there were taxed in Bristol 425 cows. The grade of stock is now much superior to that formerly kept, and includes the Hereford, the Jersey, and the Holstein. A portion of the milk is made into butter at the homes, but the greater part is sold on the local milk routes, delivered to the milk car that leaves Bristol four times each week, or is sold to the Deer-foot Farm company that sends the cream to market and gives the skim-milk back to the farmers, who feed it to calves or swine.

The survival of the fittest is seen in the history of farming in Bristol, as well as elsewhere, and so there are in town fine farms and progressive, modern farmers. Zerah E. Tilton has the largest farm in town and pays the largest tax of any farmer. His home farm and the Aaron Sleeper farm, which he recently acquired, contain 600 acres. He cuts nearly 100 tons of hay, and in 1902, cultivated ten acres of corn and the same of oats, all of which was cut up for the silo. He keeps twenty cows and twenty-two other neat stock, all full blood or high grade Holstein, and five horses.

John F. Merrow, of Boston, has a farm of about 300 acres, that is under the highest state of cultivation of any farm in town. His farm is especially valuable for its grass and fruit.



He cuts nearly 100 tons of hay, and sometimes ships 400 barrels of apples to market, including early varieties like the Gravensteins. He has kept a large number of high grade Jerseys. Mr. Merrow spends his summers on this farm. Its location in the northeastern part of the town is especially fine, and the view is one of the grandest in this part of the state.

Rev. George J. Judkins has a farm of 400 acres. He cuts forty-five or more tons of hay, and plants ten acres of corn, which is cut for the silo, making nearly 100 tons of ensilage. His has been distinctively a dairy farm, and he has kept thirty or more cows. For many years, he made on the average eighty pounds of butter each week. In 1898, he purchased of Horace N. Emmons, a milk route, but in 1902 he abandoned this business, and now sends his milk to the milk car.

Horace N. Emmons has a valuable farm of about 400 acres. He operated a milk route for twenty years previous to his sale to Rev. Mr. Judkins, and kept thirty or more cows. He has raised as many as 600 bushels of shelled corn in one season. He has, also, a good fruit orchard.

Solon Dolloff has one of the best fruit orchards in town, and he keeps fifteen to twenty cows. Calvin H. Martin cuts sixty tons of hay and milks twelve cows, making the cream into dairy butter. J. H. Huckins keeps from sixteen to twenty cows and markets his milk at the creamery. Alfred H. Heath has a fine herd of thirty Holsteins, and cuts seventy-five tons of hay. Levi N. Heath milks ten cows, and cuts thirty tons of hay.

Ranking among the best are the farms of Hiram T. Heath, Charles A. Gale, M. V. B. Dalton, Levi J. Nelson, Harry F. Prescott, Silas S. Brown, and E. J. Gordon. Simeon H. Cross has kept fifteen or more cows and a portion of the time has operated a milk route. William F. Hanaford has operated a milk route for twelve years, with ten or twelve cows. George A. Dow now has a milk route buying his milk of the farmers.

In 1902, Mrs. Albert G. Robie made, from the milk of fourteen cows, 2,950 pounds of butter, all of which was sold in the local market at the uniform price of twenty-five cents per pound.

## CHAPTER XXXIX

### MINES AND MINING

The lofty lines  
Abound with mineral treasure.

—*Blackmore.*

On the Samuel Hilands farm, east of Newfound lake, is a mine of plumbago, or black lead, of considerable extent. *Farmer & Little's Gazeteer* for 1820 speaks of this mine as "a large body of plumbago recently discovered in Bristol, which is pronounced the best in the country. The land has been purchased by Charles J. Dunbar, of Massachusetts." This deposit was worked for commercial purposes soon after its purchase, and a high grade of lead pencils was made from it. A prize was given at the "Brighton Exhibition" in Massachusetts in 1823, for lead pencils made at Concord, Mass., from the Bristol plumbago, and these were the leading pencils of the day. Zeabury, Olup & Watkins operated this mine for a few years from 1845. The lead was ground and put up in small packages for shipment in the building now used for a blacksmith shop, on the west side of Water street. While blasting in this mine, John Atwood, a workman, lost both eyes by a premature blast.

In 1875, Edwin S. Foster and William A. Rice purchased the mining rights on the farm of Isaac C. Tilton, in Bridgewater, on the east shore of the lake and sunk a shaft seventy-five feet, obtaining fine argentiferous galena. A tunnel was also commenced, but ore in paying quantities was not obtained and work was abandoned.

In 1875, Dr. Lucius E. Truesdell commenced work on a silver mine on the hillside west of North Bristol for Thomas B. Warren, of Springfield, Mass. Work was continued here for ten years or more. A shaft was sunk from the top of the ledge, and later a tunnel was bored 300 feet into the solid ledge. Argentiferous galena, gold bearing quartz, and beautiful specimens of quartz crystals were found here; but more gold and silver were put into the hill than ever taken out, and consequently mining was abandoned.

The Shamrock Mica company was composed of Charles C. Howe, William Healey, N. L. Bradley, George E. Howe, and Fred S. Fall. All but the latter were residents of Connecticut. They organized Oct. 14, 1891, under the laws of New Hampshire, and had their nominal place of business at Bristol. Their capital stock on paper was \$10,000. Their business was to "buy, sell and deal in mica mines, and to operate the same." They added nothing to the industry of the place.

## CHAPTER XL

### FATAL ACCIDENTS

Wherein I spake of most disastrous chances,  
Of moving accidents by flood and field.

—*Shakespeare.*

1776. Dec. 26, Henry Wells was frozen to death in New Chester.

1782. John Favor, son of Capt. Cutting Favor, twenty-two years old, lived in a house now owned by the heirs of the late Rev. Dr. Murdock, on Murray hill, then a part of Alexandria. He had been on a visit to his father's home, and perished in a storm, as will appear from the following affidavits:

#### State of New Hampshire

Grafton ss.)

##### The Evidence of Robert Murry

I Robert Murry of Alexandria in the County and State afore S.d Being of Lawful Age and as John Feavor Being a Neighbor of Mine & as he had been gone from his own house in Alexandria from tuesday Morning untill the next fryday Morning following his wife Being very uneasy and I was very Suspicious Something had Befallen the man I went after him & followed his Snow Shew Tracks which he went out to New Chester to his fathers and as I had Travilled about two Miles and an half on S.d Road and about So far from his own house <sup>1</sup> I Saw as I Took it to Be the Body of a Man Lying Some Rods Distance from Me which Surprisd me very Much I left S.d Tracks and Made the Best of my way to New Chester and acquainted his friends and the People with what I had Seen & his Mother told me that he went from their house on tuesday before and I went with nine men More & found the Dead Body of John Feavor Lying on the Snow and I assisted those nine Men in Carriing the Dead Body to N. Chester to his fathers dwelling house and assisted in Lying the Corps out and it appearing to Me according to the Best of My Judgment that as their was no Marks on S.d body when wee Laid out S.d Body that he Perished with the Severity of the weather.

Robert Murrey

Dated at New Chester 19th Janry 1782

New Chester Janry. 19th. 1872

Grafton ss.)

Then the above named Robert Murry personally appearing and Made Solemn Oath to the truth of the above written Evidence which he had Subscribed with his own hand that it was the truth the whole truth and nothing But the truth Before Me Carr Huse Jus.t Peace.

<sup>1</sup> The body was found on Kimball hill.

## State of New Hamshire

Grafton ss.)

The evidence of us whose names are under written where as wee whose names are under written was Informd By Robert Murry of Alexandria that he had seen the Dead Body of a man Lying upon the snow on the Road that Leads from New Chester Main Road to william Murrys in Alexandria wee whose names are underwritten went with the S.d Robert Murry out to the Dead Body and found it to be the Body of John feavor of Alexandria and wee Being all nine Personally Present Took up S.d Dead Body and Brought the S.d Dead Body after wee had examined his Tracks and found no other Tracks within Some Rods of S.d Dead Body only a Dogs track as we suppos which went with the S.d John Feavor from his fathers house in New Chester on tuesday which was the fifteenth Day of this Instant Jany. and this Being the 18th Day of the Same month when wee took up S.d Dead Body and wee carr.d S.d dead Body to his fathers house in New Chester and wee in the presence of several others Stript and Examind S.d Dead when we laid it out and found no Marks or wounds that the S.d Man Came By his End. But our Judgment is that the S.d John Feavor Perished with the Severity of the weather as his friends informed us that he went from there well and hearty on tuesday towards night on S.d Day.

New Chester, Janry. 19th 1782.

Nason Cass  
thomas Wells  
Ebenezer Wells  
his  
william X Bennet  
Mark  
Reuben Wells

his  
Tilton X Bennett  
Mark  
Joseph Sanborn  
his  
Samuel X Gurdy  
Mark

Carr Huse New Chester, 19 Jany. 1782.

Grafton ss)

Then the above named nason Cass Thomas Wells, Reuben Wells Ebenezer Wells william Bennet Tilton Bennet Joseph Sanborn and Samuel Gurdy. Personally appearing and Made solemn oath to the truth of the above Evidence which they have Subscribed with their own hands to Be the truth the whole truth & nothing But the truth Before Carr Huse Just. Peace.

1792. Aug. 31, Sherburn Sleeper, residing on the Zerah E. Tilton place, was drowned in a spring of water near his house, his head only being in the water. He was supposed to have fallen in a fit.

1802. July 6, Alexander Craige and a Mr. Marsh, who resided in Bristol on the Alexandria hill, went to Bristol village and while intoxicated got into the river near the potash and both were drowned in the presence of spectators.

1806. Nov. 13, Samuel Emmons, the first white child born in Bristol, was killed while logging on Hoyt hill.

1807. Apr. 20, Sherburn Sanborn and a companion were running logs down the Newfound river. A jam was broken at the bend below the bridge on Willow street and Sanborn was drowned. Search was made for the body without avail. On the night of the seventh day after the drowning, his brother-in-law, Jonathan Worthen, dreamed that he saw the body under



the projecting roots of a tree on the bank of the river nearly opposite where the pulp-mill now is. The next day search was made and the body was found as seen in the dream.

1808. Mar. 31, Mary, daughter of Aaron Favor, was killed by the rolling of a log at Major Theophilous Sanborn's. Her age was about seven years.

1811. March 23, William F. Sanborn was drowned while rafting lumber down the Pemigewasset.

1811. July 17, Carleton, aged four years, son of Samuel C. Brown, was drowned.

1812. Daniel Kelley, of New Hampton, attended a muster in Bristol, became intoxicated, and while fording the river on his return, fell from his horse and was drowned.

1814. When the Methodist chapel was being erected, and the plastering on the walls was green, one of the workmen, a Mr. Cheney, lay in the building all night, and died of exposure.

1820. Dec. 20, six children of William Follansbee were burned to death with his dwelling in the west part of Hill.

1820. In the winter 1820-'21, Dr. Walter I. Wardrobe, of Bristol village, while riding down a hill was thrown from his sleigh. His head struck a rock and he was killed.

1824. Onesiphorus J., son of Onesiphorus Page, met his death, Dec. 11, at the Fisk house by falling into a tub of hot water made ready to scald a hog.

1826. From 1826 till 1830, Robert Rogers lived on what is now John F. Merrow's farm. Two of his children were at play on a dump-cart that was tipped against the wall. The weight of the children caused the cart to tip over and one child was killed, the other injured.

1830. Filinda, a daughter of Jeremiah Carleton, aged two years, met her death in the Borough by falling into a tub of scalding water.

1830. Rufus Hastings, about three years old, son of John Hastings, fell into a tub of scalding water at Profile Falls, and died soon after.

1830. In the thirties, William Murray was drowned near the mouth of Smith's river by breaking through the ice. His body was not recovered for several months.

1836. Samuel Tirrell was drowned in the Pemigewasset. He fell from a raft and a stick of timber thrown to him to aid him to keep afloat, disabled him.

1837. Seth Greenleaf started from New Hampton for Plymouth one dark night driving six horses attached to the stage-coach. There were nine passengers. One tradition says that Greenleaf was persuaded against his judgment to place a lantern on the coach where the light blinded him, but another account says he had imbibed too much. However this may be, when he reached a point just above the Pemigewasset bridge in

Bristol, he drove off the steep embankment. The stage was overturned; all the passengers were more or less injured and a child was killed.

1838. A man from Franklin, hunting near Moore's mills, was killed by his gun being discharged while taking it from the wagon.

1839. Chase Fuller, of Bristol, a Revolutionary soldier, while at work in New Hampton moving a building, was struck on the head by a lever and killed.

1840. In the late thirties or early forties, Joseph Kendall was killed by lightning while standing at the door of a barn nearly opposite the cemetery. This man, with several others, took refuge in the barn from a severe thunder shower that came up suddenly while they were at work in the hayfield near by. Kendall picked up a hatchet and commenced striking it into the door post, when one of the others remarked that that was not the proper thing to play with during a shower. Kendall replied in a light manner that God Almighty had not yet made the thunderbolt that would kill him. Hardly were the words uttered when a bolt of lightning killed him. This story is well authenticated.

1840. About this date, a child of Squires C. Brown was killed in Bristol village by falling down stairs.

1847. May 1, Orrison, son of Calvin Swett, was drowned in the Pemigewasset, while bathing at Moore's Mills. His age was about six years.

1848. While the railroad was being built, a charge of gunpowder was placed in the marl bank just below the freight station. The fuse did not work promptly and the workmen returned to the spot and commenced to investigate when there was a terrific explosion. Three men were blown into the air. One, an Irishman, was killed, the others terribly injured.

1850. Aug. 2, Simeon C. Bean was killed by lightning at the house of Jeremiah Bean.

1853. In May, Henry Kidder, while at work in the stable of the old Prescott Inn, was kicked in the temple by a horse and died from its effects a few days later.

1854. June 14, Benjamin Follansbee was killed while coupling cars at the Bristol station. His age was fifty-six years.

1856. Aug. 6, William W. Wooster, a boy aged ten years, was thrown from a hand-car on the railroad and killed.

1860. About this date, a son of Rev. William Spaulding was caught on a revolving shaft in the basement of what is now Blake's block, and carried round the shaft many times, his feet and lower limbs being fearfully mangled. He died some days later.

1862. June 20, Sanborn Gale was watching workmen construct the road near the Sugar Loaf. A blast was made and a

piece of flying stone struck him, killing him almost instantly.

1867. While returning from the state encampment, Jack Sullivan, a private of the Head Rifles of Bristol, fell between the cars and a portion of the train passed over him, killing him.

1870. Mar. 20, Charles H., son of William Todd, while sliding from Summer street into Central square, slid into a team and received injuries from which he died.

1874. In the summer of this year, George A. Draper laid the foundation for the Post-office block. While watching the workmen dig the trench for the foundation, the earth under his feet gave way and he fell into the trench head first and a large rock rolled onto his head, forcing it into the earth. An excited crowd worked for some time before he was liberated. He died from his injuries and incidental complications a short time later.

1875. In March, the buildings on Third street, owned and occupied by Orrin B. Ray, were consumed by fire. The fire was set in the barn by his four-year-old son, Everett, while playing with matches. The boy perished in the flames.

1875. Daniel Emery, a night-workman at the Mason-Perkins Paper company's mill, was found dead on the morning of Nov. 12, with his body cut in two. He had evidently fallen into revolving gearing while oiling the machinery.

1875. In August, two young men of Franklin undertook a canoe trip from Campton to Franklin on the Pemigewasset river. When within a few rods of the foot of Bristol rapids the canoe struck a rock and was overturned. One of the young men, named Cummings, was drowned.

1877. Oct. 4, Andrew F. Burpee died from the effect of a gunshot wound received a few days previous while hunting with a son. The gun in the hands of the son was discharged by the hammer getting caught in the bushes. The discharge made a great wound in the father's back penetrating the lungs.

1879. A man by the name of Beede fell from his carriage while intoxicated and broke his neck.

1880. Sept. 23, Addie G., daughter of George C. Breck, aged nearly four years, was drowned.

1881. May 23, Helen Kate, the infant daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Charles W. Coolidge, was killed by a cupboard falling over and striking her as she lay in a chair.

1881. Orville Haynes was killed by the accidental discharge of a pistol, Nov. 16, at North Bristol.

1883. March 17, Gilman Sanborn, aged sixty-eight years, while snow-blind, walked onto a circular board saw in Drake's mill. His right leg was nearly severed from his body. He died three days later.

1883. Apr. 13, John Simonds was thrown from a hand car on the railroad by his clothing catching on the crank. He was



thrown to the track ahead of the car and that car and a small car attached loaded with rails passed over him, killing him instantly.

1883. July 1, Howard J. Donley was drowned in the Pemigewasset, near Moore's Mills, while bathing. He became exhausted by swimming to the east shore, and before resting attempted to swim back; his strength failed and he sank.

1888. Aug. 2, Stephen Rowe was giving a sail on the lake in his yacht to his brother, Edward Rowe, wife, and child two years old, of Boston. When about half way between Whittemore's point and the mouth of Fowler's river, the yacht was struck by a high wind and capsized. Joseph, Philip, and Nicholas Adams, who were near by in another yacht, rescued all except the child, who was drowned. The body was not recovered.

1888. Dec. 13, Frank E. Brown, aged thirty-five years, while driving a heavily loaded team, was thrown from his seat and the wheels passed over his neck, breaking it.

1889. Mar. 30, Hiram S. Clifford was engaged in taking hard wood plank from a pile when a portion of the pile fell over, burying him beneath it. He died the next day from his injuries.

1889. Oct. 16, Wilson W. Hazelton took a cider barrel to the pulp-mill of Train, Smith & Co. to clean it. He placed one end of a steam pipe into the bung hole, leaving no means of escape for the steam, thinking the barrel would hold it as the pressure was low. The barrel soon exploded with great force, killing Mr. Hazelton.

1893. April 2, James T. Ballou died from the effects of a gunshot wound received while gunning two days before.

1896. July 1, occurred an unusually distressing drowning accident. Harlie Kirk, son of Frank S. Kirk, thirteen years old, with a companion, went to the Pemigewasset river, near Worthen rock, to bathe. Harlie ventured to the edge of a sand bar when the sand gave way and he sank. His companion attempted to assist him but neither could swim, and the attempt was soon given up, and Harlie was left to his fate. His companion was so dazed at what had happened that he gave no alarm to men at work in a field near by, but dressed himself, walked to the village, passed many persons on the way without speaking, and informed Mr. Kirk of what had happened. The body must have been in the water nearly an hour and so the most persistent efforts at resuscitation were of no avail. Young Harlie was one of the brightest pupils in the public school and his death was a great shock to the community.

1901. George Ballou, of Bristol, and Arthur W. Kelley, of Hill, were killed on the railroad at a crossing in Franklin, Jan. 19.



## CHAPTER XLI

### CEMETERIES

Sweet spot, by Nature's primal consecration,  
Sacred to peace and thought and calm repose,  
Well in thy breast that elder generation  
Their place of burial chose.

—Butler.

For many years after the settlement of the town, it was to some extent the custom here, as elsewhere throughout the state, for people to bury their dead on their own farms. The placing of a lettered slate or marble slab at the head of a grave was rarely done, a flat stone alone marking the resting-place of loved ones. It therefore frequently happened that when farms changed hands the graves were neglected and all traces of interments soon disappeared. Human remains were plowed up a few years ago on what was once the farm of Meshach Gurdy north of Smith's river near the railroad, which were without doubt the remains of members of his family, three of whom died of diphtheria and were buried on his farm previous to 1790. Several of the family of Tom Locke were buried on the farm now owned and occupied by Solon Dolloff, and two children of Josiah Fuller were buried on his farm; but to-day the present owners of the land do not know the location of the graves. On the farm of Manson B. Patten was what was known as the Truel burying-ground, where from fifteen to twenty interments were made, but the plowshare has leveled all traces of the resting-places of the dead. The Quimby burying-ground was on the west side of the highway from Bristol to Hill village, just south of what is now the farmhouse of B. Smith Stevens. There were perhaps twenty interments here; but not a grave was marked except by a rude stone, and all traces of interments long since disappeared. Cutting Favor buried his dead on his farm on the west bank of the Pemigewasset, while some of his sons had a private burying-ground on the east bank. Later, those on the west side were removed to the cemetery on the east side where they now rest. The Sanborn private burying-ground, one of the few now left, may be seen a little distance south of Smith's river, between the highway and the railroad. The Peaslee burying-ground, in the same vicinity, was a neighborhood cemetery.

The cemetery at Hill village is said to have been laid out by Carr Huse in 1773. The Worthen burying-ground, about

one mile east of Central square, was without doubt the first opened within the limits of Bristol. Other early cemeteries in town are the one on New Chester mountain, known as the Sleeper yard; one in District No. 9, west of the lake, on the Samuel T. W. Sleeper farm, which was conveyed to Mr. Sleeper by the town, in 1860, in trust; the graveyard at Moore's Mills; that in the Locke neighborhood, and the Heath yard, three miles east of this village on the New Hampton road. The Burns graveyard, just over the line in Alexandria, contains the remains of several who once resided on the summit of Gale's hill, in Bristol. The first cemetery at North Bristol was west of Newfound river; the present cemetery was opened about 1849, and the remains of those in the old removed to the new. There was also a cemetery on North Main street in Bristol village containing a half acre of ground on the lot now occupied by Thomas T. Drake's tenement house. This was the chief place of interment in this village for many years previous to 1854, and its crowded condition led to the opening of the new cemetery on Pleasant street. Then the remains of many of those in this cemetery were removed to the new. About 1869, the town completed the work of removal and disposed of the land.

In 1854, the people of Bristol village moved in the matter of securing a more suitable place for the burial of the dead. Dr. Jacob S. Eaton was one of the leaders in the movement and, to help the cause, gave an address in the Methodist church on Spring street, on the burial of the dead.

The result was that Aug. 19, of that year, fifty-one persons organized themselves into a voluntary corporation under the name of The Bristol Cemetery association. Five directors, a treasurer, and clerk were elected. Four acres of land on Pleasant street were purchased which constitute a part of the present grounds. The price of the lots was fixed at \$10 each, and this continued till November, 1882, when the price was increased to \$15 and \$20 according to location. After an addition made to the grounds in 1889, the value of the best lots was placed at \$25 and \$30. The owners of lots are members of the association, with one vote for each lot owned.

Yearly meetings of the association were held for five years and then lapsed, and not another meeting was held for twenty-one years. During the interim, Frederick Bartlett, as secretary and treasurer, was the manager of its affairs. He sold lots as needed, and when the four acres became too limited he used adjoining lands belonging to himself.

In the early months of 1880, Henry A. Randolph interested himself to have the association reorganized, and, at his request, the clerk called a meeting of the shareholders, which was held at the town hall, June 26. At this meeting Richard S. Danforth, Robert S. Hastings, George M. Cavis, Samuel D. Farrar,

and Richard W. Musgrove were elected directors. The directors organized with the choice of Mr. Danforth, president; Mr. Musgrove, secretary; Mr. Cavis, treasurer, and Mr. Hastings, superintendent of the grounds.

The directors made a settlement with Mr. Bartlett, the former clerk, and purchased of him nine additional acres of land, a part of which had already been used for burial purposes. The directors also purchased about an acre of land of David Sanborn to straighten the line on the east side.

In 1884, water was supplied for a fountain and a portion of the grounds by a hydraulic ram placed at the tannery on Lake street. Since 1887, the grounds have been supplied by the Bristol Aqueduct company.

In 1889, the association added fifteen acres of land by purchase from Frederick Bartlett, which carried its line across a ravine on the north to the land of Zerah E. Tilton, and extended its frontage on Pleasant street 276 feet. This purchase cost \$1,225. In 1901, about nineteen acres of land on the west were purchased of Zerah E. Tilton, having a frontage on Pleasant street of fifty-three rods, and costing \$1,916. The number of acres now owned by the association is about forty-five.

In 1890, the association commenced the creation of two funds for the future care of the grounds. One-half of the income from the sale of lots was to be set aside and allowed to accumulate till the principal and interest should amount to \$3,000; after which the interest only was to be used for the care and improvement of the grounds. This was called the reserve fund. In May, 1901, this fund amounted to \$2,000. At that time the land included in the last purchase came into the market, and it was decided that the future needs of the association demanded its purchase. The land was accordingly bought, most of the reserve fund being used for that purpose. A new fund was at once commenced, which, in January, 1903, amounted to over \$500.

The other fund was called the trust fund. The directors were authorized to receive sums of money from \$50 upwards, as a trust fund, the income as far as needed to be expended for the care of specified lots; the balance, if any, to be expended in the care of the grounds. This fund, Jan. 1, 1903, amounted to \$4,634. David Mason left for this fund \$1,000; Samuel Blakeley, \$150, and George W. Miller, \$200. Mr. Blakeley also left the association \$500 for a stone arch; but as this amount was inadequate for the work, it was paid to the association by the heirs without conditions, and is reserved under the name of the Blakeley fund until it can be used for some specific work where full credit can be given.

This cemetery is beautifully located on a plain of sandy soil a half mile from Central square. It has a fringe of forest on the east and several acres of forest on the north. In the forest is a

ravine through which flows a never-failing stream of water. The lots, walks, and driveways are of generous proportions and laid out symmetrically. One-half of the money derived from the sale of lots, the interest on the trust fund, and one dollar per year paid by many of the lot owners for the care of their lots, constitute a sum sufficient to employ one or two men on the grounds much of the time during the summer and to make improvements from time to time. No more land will need be purchased for a hundred years and the sale of lots will create a fund which will ensure this cemetery proper care and make it one of the most beautiful places for the burial of the dead in the state. This has become practically the cemetery for the whole town and very few interments are made now in any other. Indeed, people residing in all the surrounding towns have purchased lots and buried their dead here. The number of interments made, during the little less than half a century the grounds have been used, is nearly 1,300.

Col. O. F. Fowler was president of the directors from 1854 till 1860. Frederick Bartlett, clerk and treasurer, 1854-1880. On the reorganization of the association in 1880, R. S. Danforth was chosen president and served two years; H. A. Randolph and Hon. L. W. Fling each served one year; Hon. B. F. Perkins served ten years. Marshall W. White was elected in 1894 and has served till now. George M. Cavis was treasurer till 1891. R. W. Musgrove has been clerk since 1880 and treasurer since 1891. R. S. Hastings has been superintendent of the grounds since 1880. The present board of directors are: M. W. White, R. S. Hastings, R. W. Musgrove, F. P. Fields, and Franklin Fogg.



## CHAPTER XLII

### SOLDIERS' MONUMENTS

And they who for their country die,  
Shall fill an honored grave;  
For glory lights the soldier's tomb,  
And beauty weeps the brave.

—*Drake.*

In 1872, an effort was made to secure the erection of a soldiers' monument. Five hundred dollars was appropriated by the town for this purpose, and Henry A. Randolph, Milo Fellows, George M. Wooster, Lieut. Timothy Tilton, and Henry A. Taylor were appointed a committee on the subject. This sum was found to be insufficient and the next year the town supplemented this sum with \$500 more. An effort was made at this time to postpone action till the town could afford to erect a more suitable monument than it could at that time, but to no avail. A marble shaft, sixteen and one-half feet high, including base, was erected in the village cemetery. It was designed to contain the names of all those who fell in the service while serving on the quota of Bristol during the Civil War; but the record is so incomplete and erroneous that it is omitted here.

In 1896, congress appropriated a piece of ordinance to Nelson Post, No. 40, G. A. R., for monumental purposes. A mortar at the Charlestown navy yard, that had seen service, was selected, brought to Bristol in November, 1897, and placed in Central square. A foundation of stone and cement, which extended below the frost, was laid. This was capped with a massive base of hammered granite, twelve feet long, five feet four inches wide, and one foot thick. On the sides of this in raised letters is the following inscription: "Nelson Post, No. 40, G. A. R., 1897." On this base the mortar was placed, making a very imposing appearance. The mortar stands five feet, nine inches high; is four feet, four inches long; measures three feet, seven inches across its face, and has a bore of thirteen inches.

This mortar was formally dedicated as a monument Nov. 4, 1898, under the auspices of Nelson Post, G. A. R. Nelson Post and Relief Corps, and the officers of the town attended in a body. The day was a delightful one, a large concourse of people were present and the exercises passed off pleasantly and creditably to all concerned. The exercises took place at two o'clock. There was singing by a chorus under the leadership of Fred H. Briggs, when Charles E. Davis, chairman of the board of selectmen, formally invited Nelson Post to dedicate the

memorial to the purpose for which it had been placed there. Nelson Post then went through the dedicatory service of the Grand Army of the Republic, under the leadership of John F. Phillips, commander. He was assisted by James W. Saunders, adjutant; William F. Hanaford, senior vice-commander; Simeon H. Cross, junior vice-commander; Daniel K. Cummings, officer of the day; George H. Fleer, officer of the guard, and Moody O. Edgerly, chaplain. George C. Currier, Benjamin Gray, William C. Kelley, and Charles H. Proctor acted as guards. E. C. Paige represented the army and Master Herbert Varney the navy. As the flag was unfurled, "The Star Spangled Banner" was sung and the mortar uncovered by Mrs. Abbie F. Gray and Miss Clara Gray.

These services over, the president of the day, Capt. R. W. Musgrove, made a few opening remarks, and then introduced Hon. Henry M. Baker, ex-congressman, who delivered a fine dedicatory address. This was followed by singing, after which the memorial was formally again turned over to the town for its care and preservation.

On the face of the mortar is fixed a white bronze tablet on which are the following inscriptions:

In memory of the men who fell in defence of their country, from Bristol, during the War of the Rebellion, 1861 to 1865.

Charles W. Cheney, killed at Chancellorsville, Va.

Gustavus Emmons, killed at Chancellorsville, Va.

Henry R. Kidder, killed at Chancellorsville, Va.

Dan P. Nelson, killed at Chancellorsville, Va.

Corp. Charles G. Smith, died of wounds received at Chancellorsville, Va.

Robert Easter, died at Washington, D. C.

William P. Harlow, died at Washington, D. C.

Henry A. Fellows, died of wounds received at Gettysburg, Pa.

Adna M. Hall, died of wounds received at Gettysburg, Pa.

Roswell D. Swett, died at Boston, Mass.

Albert Nelson, died at Bristol, N. H.

Corp. Abbott C. Musgrove, killed at Deep Bottom, Va.

Benjamin Saunders, died in rebel prison.

Merrill Simonds, died at Christianville, Va.

Moses Dustin, died at Concord, N. H.

John A. Gray, died at Manchester.

Charles H. Marden, died of wounds at Kearneysville, Va.

Franklin W. Belcher, died at Darnestown, Md.

Moses Ash, died of wounds at Fort Monroe, Va.

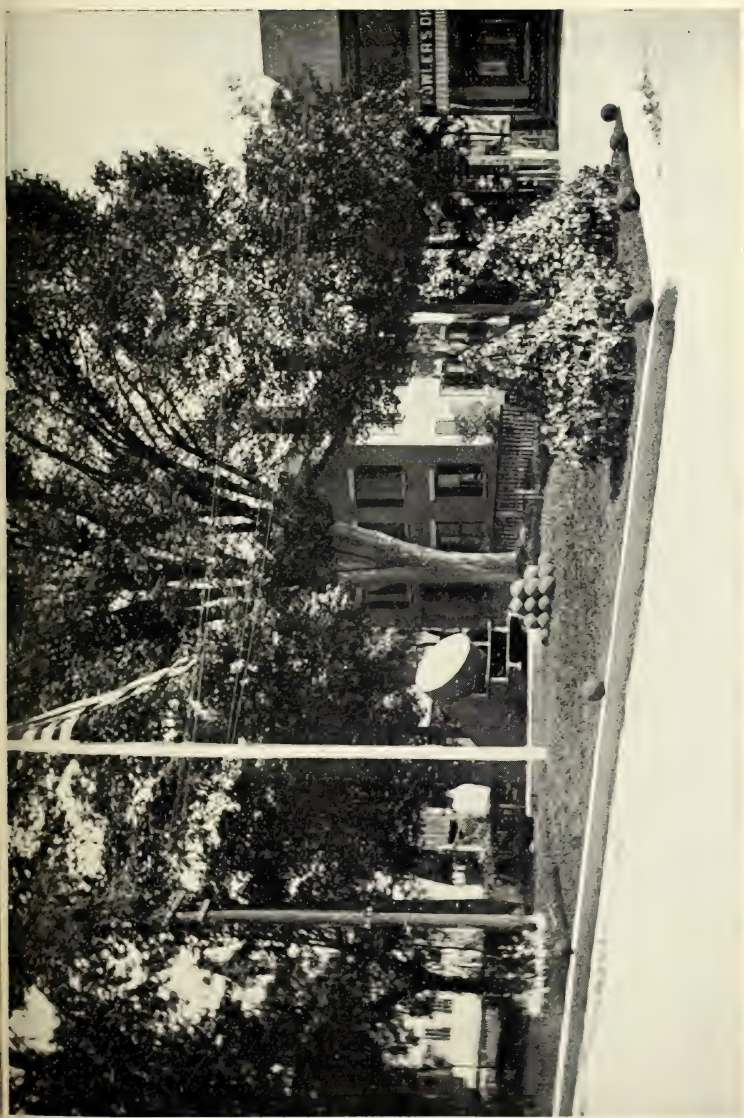
Henry Mitchell, killed at Farmville, Va.

Denis Leary, killed at Spottsylvania, Va.

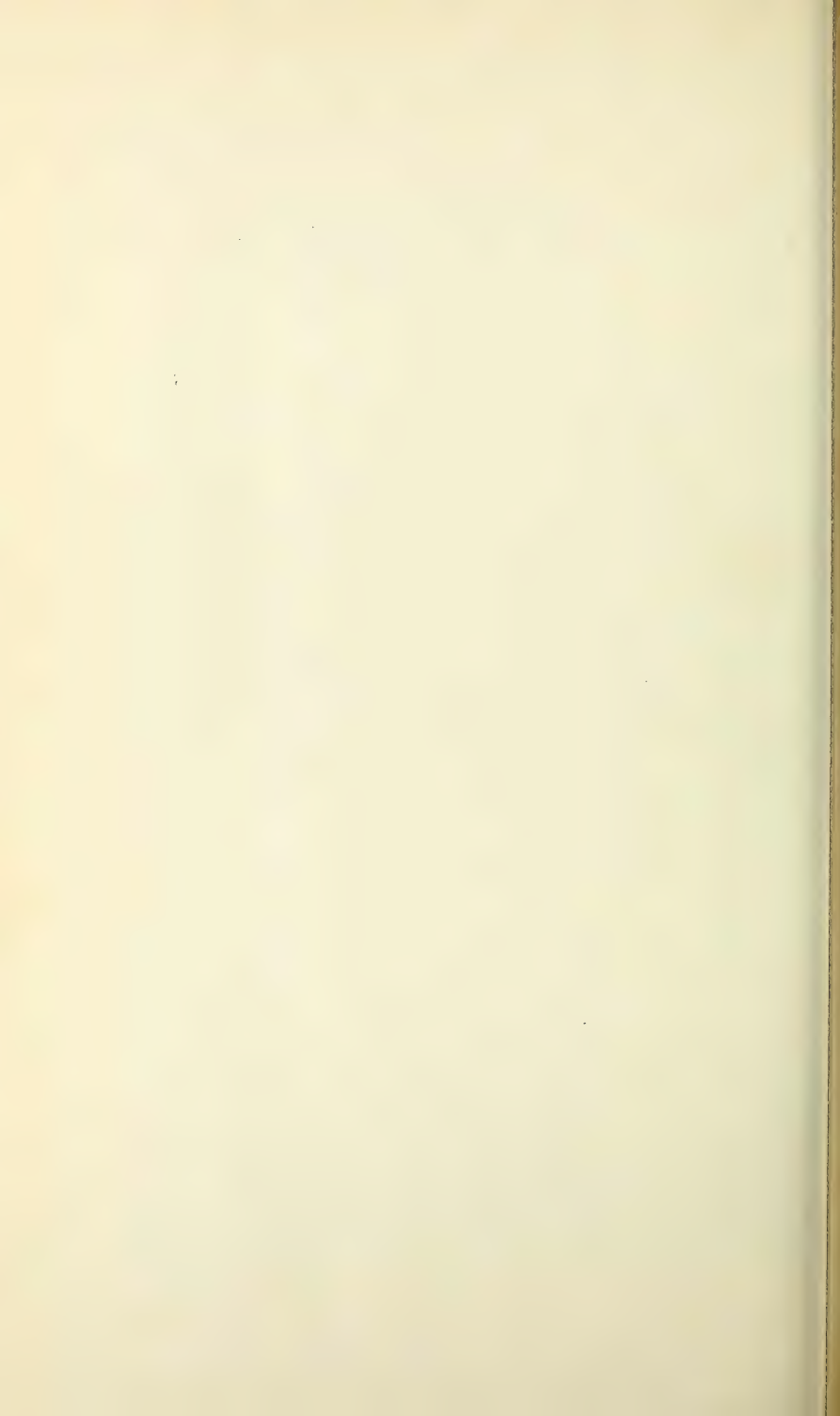
Edwin Plummer, died at David's Island, New York Harbor.

This mortar was on the ship Orvette. She was in the following bombardments: Forts Jackson and St. Phillips, La., Apr. 16-24, 1862; Vicksburg, Miss., June-July, 1862; Port Hudson, La., Mar. 14, 15, 1863, and May 8-June 26, 1863; off Fort Powell, Grant's Pass, Miss., Feb. 16-29, 1864; off Port Royal and Morris Island, S. C., 1864-5.

Erected through the efforts of Captain William A. Beckford, by the town of Bristol.



SOLDIERS' MONUMENT, CENTRAL SQUARE





## CHAPTER XLIII

### INCIDENTS AND ANECDOTES

These are the tales those merry guests  
Told to each other, well or ill;  
Like summer birds that lift their crests  
Above the borders of their nests,  
And twitter, and again are still.

—*Longfellow*

#### CAREER OF JOHN S. EMMONS

About 1843, John S. Emmons, then a young man twenty-three years of age, forged the name of his uncle, John Emmons, to a note of \$100 or more and negotiated the same. He was arrested by Deputy Sheriff Jeremiah H. Prescott and, in the evening of the same day, went to his home in the Fisk block, in company with the sheriff, to obtain additional clothing. Being granted permission to visit his chamber unattended, he promptly escaped by way of a window and took to the woods. In May, 1844, he was captured and lodged in Haverhill jail. He broke jail in August and went to Massachusetts, where he pursued a career of crime and served several short terms of imprisonment in Lowell and Cambridge. In the summer of 1848, he returned to the scenes of his old home and was the terror of this section for several months. He lived in the woods eluding arrest, and hardly a day passed that did not add to the excitement caused by his depredations. He obtained his food by gathering berries, milking cows in the pastures, entering dwellings and stores at night and stealing supplies. Every door was barred and every window carefully fastened, but no precautions were sufficient to keep Emmons out. His tracks were easy to find in the woods where he had passed a night or partaken of a meal; but his capture was not so easy. His depredations gave a sense of insecurity to this entire section of the state.

One morning in the early fall Emmons was seen in the woods south of the village, and a company was promptly called together by the deputy sheriff, armed with the muskets of the Bristol Phalanx, and started in pursuit of the outlaw. New Chester mountain was surrounded with armed men. During the afternoon the guard, stationed at the high bridge over Smith's river, saw Emmons approaching on the run and promptly secreted themselves under the bridge, while Emmons passed

over safely and took to the woods on the south side of the stream.

One evening, a week or two later, Josiah S. Ingalls, an old acquaintance, who was one of the sheriff's party, was at work in the carriage factory of Lovejoy & Kelley, when in walked John S. Emmons. He spent a half hour talking of himself and his career and of local affairs, and then took his departure. Among other things, he stated that on the day of the hunt for him, he followed the party back and was in Bristol village that evening.

John S. Emmons was latter arrested in Keene for passing counterfeit money, and sentenced to the state prison in Concord for five years and ten days from April 4, 1851. On his release, he continued his career of crime and is said to have died in the prison at Charlestown, Mass.

#### TERRIBLE FATE OF EMIGRANTS TO MINNESOTA

Early in the nineteenth century, a boy by the name of Joseph Brown came to Bristol and was given a home in the family of David Powell, who lived in the Locke neighborhood. But little is known of the boy except that he came from Boston. He was kindly cared for by the Powells, and grew up with the nine sons and daughters of the Powell family. On the 22nd of October, 1816, Joseph Brown married Mary Fellows, a daughter of John Fellows, a Revolutionary soldier from Bristol, then living on Bridgewater hill. They had four children: Lois, who married David Bartlett, of West Plymouth, and died there in 1893; Theodore, who died at two years of age; Jonathan, and Horatio. The mother died in 1841 or '42. Joseph Brown resided for a time on the hill where his children are supposed to have been born, and then removed to New Hampton, where he was for nearly ten years employed by Col. Rufus G. Lewis on his farm. Then he returned to Bridgewater and, about 1855, went with his children, Jonathan and Horatio, to Minnesota, and settled about fifteen miles west of New Ulm on the Cottonwood river, where he took up a Revolutionary War land warrant which his wife's father had drawn from the government. Here they became extensive farmers, while Jonathan devoted a part of his time to surveying. Near them soon after located two young men from Alexandria by the name of Burns, for whom has since been named the village of Burnsville.

In 1862, while enjoying the fruit of their labors with bright prospects for the future, occurred the awful Sioux massacre. The alarm of an uprising of the Indians had come so often in the past, only to be proven false, that the people had become accustomed to this state of affairs, and when the alarm rang out in 1862, the people were at first incredulous. But, alas! it was then a horrid reality. With the suddenness of a hurricane, a thousand Indians took the war path, and over a vast stretch of terri-

tory a carnival of death reigned. Men, women, and children were slain with the bullet and tomahawk, or put to torture ; scores of women were carried into a captivity worse than death, and the lurid glare of burning homes lit up the heavens for a hundred miles.

When the truth dawned upon the Brown family they, like the Willey family in the White Mountain Notch at the time of the freshet in 1826, left their home to meet destruction outside, while their home escaped. Loading as many of their earthly effects as possible into a two-horse wagon, they, together with a hired man, hastened towards New Ulm. Unfortunately the Indians were at that very moment concentrating about New Ulm to destroy it, and as this little party of four hastened on their way, they were discovered by the Indians and every one put to death.

At the commencement of the massacre the two young men, spoken of above, had been boarding for some time at the Brown home, but were temporarily absent on a trip thirty miles distant up the river. On their return they found two women refugees, one badly wounded, whom they conveyed to the Brown house, and there they left them, and also set out for New Ulm. They were five days on the way, creeping along cautiously, lying in hiding two whole days, but escaped and reached their destination just after the Indians had been repulsed.

When the attack on New Ulm commenced, a company of volunteers left Lesueur for their relief. Among them was Dr. Otis Ayer, well known in Bristol as a native of the Ayer farm on the New Hampton side of the Pemigewasset. With this reinforcement New Ulm made a stubborn resistance and the Indians were finally repulsed after about one-third of the town had been burned.

Six weeks after this fight the soldiers moved through the adjoining country to bury the dead scattered all over the prairie. Dr. Ayer was with those who found the remains of the Brown party and there he found the family Bible in which were the names of the deceased, whom he recognized as old acquaintances. Near at hand sat the faithful family dog, which for six weeks had kept faithful watch over the remains of his master and family. Every afternoon this dog left his charge, went home, drove up the cows as he had been accustomed to do, and after being fed, so those in the home said, he disappeared, and resumed his guard over the dead.

#### MOLLY BURTON AND THE DOCTOR

"Molly Burton" and the Doctor occupy a unique place in the history of Bristol. Molly was the only real witch that ever lived in town, and that she was a witch and was in league with the Devil, could be easily proven by the testimony of some of the best men and women of the town ; everybody spoke of her as a



witch, and even her husband declared she was possessed of a devil, and he knew and realized this on many occasions.

Molly's name and influence were not confined to the limits of this town, and wherever she was known she was feared, and not without cause, for not only here but also in all the adjoining towns there were times when persistent churning would not bring butter, and the witch could only be driven from the cream by turning in scalding water. In many cases hogs could not be fattened; cattle, while quietly grazing, would suddenly run about, shaking their heads as they went; farming tools would mysteriously disappear, or fall to pieces just when needed; the women were troubled by their nutcakes soaking too much fat; the pork would all try away; strange noises were heard at night; and many other manifestations, seen and heard, proved that a witch was about and Molly must be the one. And then the fact that she was a witch was tested in many ways. It was said that Molly did not and could not enter a house where a horseshoe was nailed near the door; one man stuck a pin in her track as she walked the street and she instantly squatted down and could not rise till the pin was removed; and another man who was savagely attacked by a dog, hit the dog on the head with his walking stick, and then to satisfy himself that the dog was bewitched by Molly he hastened to her home where he found her on the lounge with her head tied up suffering from a wound like that inflicted on the dog. It was not, however, as a witch that Molly was chiefly feared by the Methodists. She used to attend the old Methodist chapel at the base of Sugar hill, and, after the custom of those days, to deliver an exhortation at the close of the sermon. When she arose there was always a sensation because everyone knew that somebody would get hit. She was well versed in the Bible and she would hurl all the curses and maledictions to be found therein at whomsoever and whatever she would. Usually it was some individual, as when she said "cursed be Esquire Atwood in the name of the Lord, if he kills one of my dogs," and here it may be remarked that she always had several canines, that she had named War, Famine, and Pestilence; or it was the "fiddle" introduced into the choir that aroused her ire, when she "thanked God there would be no fiddle in Heaven." She usually had a word of admonition for the sinners present, and closed with these words "Oh tarn ye, oh, tarn ye, for why will ye die."

Of course such exhortations from such a person could not be tolerated, and many expedients were resorted to to make her stop. Once the minister told her from the pulpit that she must not speak, when she instantly arose with fire in her eyes and hurled her maledictions at him with no uncertain effect. On one occasion, two of the officers of the church carried her from the building; but a slight interruption like this did not discon-



cert her and she continued to talk till she reached the door, when she said, "Well! I am more favored than my Lord. He had but one jackass to ride, while I have two."

Dr. Burton was the husband of Molly. He had two professions, medicine and divinity. His knowledge of medicine was acquired by long years of practice with roots and herbs, and he had the reputation of being quite skilful in this line. His inspiration for preaching was drawn from a mug of cider. While Molly always sought the church to do her preaching, the Doctor did his on the streets, and a single mug of cider would keep him on Zion's walls all night. He usually chose a dark night for his best efforts, and he would station himself in front of the different houses in the village by turn and preach till the lights went out, then he would betake himself to the base of Sugar hill and continue to preach till his inspiration was gone, which sometimes did not occur till the grey hours of morning. On one occasion his preaching was rudely interrupted by a game played by the boys that terribly frightened the Doctor; but when he realized that he was still on earth, he said, "Let us return thanks for this great deliverance," when he varied the exercises by offering a prayer.

In addition to the dogs that Molly claimed as her own, the Doctor had two hounds that always followed him in his perambulations, and so he was always sure of an attentive and patient audience. Sometimes when the Doctor was drunk the devil reigned in him as well as in Molly, and it is said that on one occasion he knocked Molly down and stood over her with a broomstick, and to her efforts to rise he said, "Well! Molly I tell you what it is, the farther you get up, the farther you have got to fall."

But in spite of these little episodes Molly and the Doctor lived happily together. Molly always had her mite for the contribution box, and both had many a kind deed for the suffering, and when he came to his last sickness she tenderly cared for him, and later erected at his grave in the Bristol cemetery a plain marble slab. Many who knew Molly and the Doctor do not recognize the name on the slab for it reads "William Borden." Some time after the death of the Doctor, Molly removed to an adjoining town, where she died and filled a pauper's grave.

#### MILLERITE POTATOES

At the time of the Millerite excitement, in the fall of 1843, David Trumbull had a large field of potatoes that he declined to dig because he would not live to need them. One day Hezekiah Sargent asked permission to dig some of them. "Yes," said Trumbull, "dig all you wish. I only want a few to last me the short time I shall stay here." Sargent dug all except a few rows. Time wore away, the world continued to turn on its

axis, and as Trumbull's supply of potatoes was getting low, he called on Sargent for some, when Sargent coolly replied that he did not know as he had any to spare.

#### EXTRACT FROM RECORDS

This may Certify whom it May Concern that Mr. Jonathan Palmer of Alexandria and Mrs. Lydia Quimby of New Chester have Been Published in the Town of New Chester—New Chester, October ye 22th 1781 Carr Huse Town Clerk.

N. B. Mr. Jonathan Palmer Jr. was the Man Meant to Be Published—and without any Doubt with Me, was universally taken to Be the man Attest Carr Huse Town Clerk.

#### AN OLD PIT OPENED

In May, 1884, in making excavations for a new boiler-house by the New Hampshire Pulp and Paper company in what was once the tan yard of White's tannery, a tan pit, covered up thirty-five years before and forgotten, was opened. It was full of liquor and sole leather. The liquor was still as bright as when put in and the leather was in a perfect state of preservation.

#### VITAL STATISTICS

Vital statistics were regarded as of little importance seventy-five years ago. The records of births, marriages, and deaths were very imperfectly kept or not kept at all. An intention of marriage was usually filed according to law which ran like this: "Marriage is intended between John Jones of Bristol and Sally Smith of Bridgewater." This declaration was recorded by the town clerk with date, but in very many instances there was no record of the marriage. Clergymen and justices of the peace frequently performed the ceremony on the simple request of the contracting parties, and afterward, if the parties desired, a record was made. The following is taken from the town books:

Martha Ingalls and myself, Peter Drown, were married Nov. 29, 1829.

The following is a copy of a paper presented to Rev. Walter Sleeper:

Mr. Sleeper—

Marriage is intended between me and Miss Martha Johnson please perform the serimony and I will hold you harmless for anything hereafter.

Bristol, Apr. 10, 1823.

Samuel C. Brown.

The ceremony was performed the same day. Henry Bailey and Nancy Barnard were married on the strength of the following paper:

This may certify that whereas Henry Bailey and Nancy Barnard both of Bristol, intends marriage we the subscribers being the highest relation to the said Nancy and sister do hereby and in this way freely give our consent

Bristol, Nov. 3, 1827.

Polly Mason  
Susan Mason

#### A FEARFUL RIDE

Perhaps no better coasting was ever afforded in Bristol than in January, 1883. A slight rain, followed by freezing, made the roads in prime condition, and the beautiful moonlight evenings called out large crowds to enjoy this exhilarating sport. South Main street, from Abram Dolloff's residence to Central square, was alive with both sexes and almost all ages, both as participants and spectators. One of the traverse sleds used, that outstripped all the rest, was twenty-two feet long and would carry from twelve to fifteen men, and, when heavily loaded, traveled with the speed of an express train. Monday evening, Jan. 13, ten young men took a ride on this sled. The party consisted of James B. Huckins, Elmer T. Sanborn, Arthur K. Drake, John P. Drake, William B. Locke, Elbridge S. Bickford, Wesley M. Preston, Edward F. Kendall, Edward M. Drake, and Edward Huckins. They moved down the hill with great velocity, but when going at its greatest speed the sled crossed a water-bar which caused it to spring so high that the transom bolt came out, and the bed-piece settled down on the sled in a way that made steering impossible. James B. Huckins, who held the ropes, called to his companions to jump; but he, Elmer T. Sanborn, and Edward M. Drake were the only ones who succeeded in getting off. Straight as an arrow and with fearful velocity the sled sped on; it passed within a foot of the post-office steps, then through the lattice woodwork between the bridge and Post-office block, as though it were but a cobweb; cleared the fifteen-foot wall with a fearful leap, plunging its load of seven human beings into the middle of Newfound river. E. M. Drake was instantly over the wall and on the ice that skirted the river, assisting his companions out of the water. One was just about to be carried under the ice below, by the strong current, when pulled out. Elbridge S. Bickford succeeded in climbing onto the ice about the pier and was drawn up to the bridge by a rope. The others, with some assistance, succeeded in gaining a foothold on the ice on the south shore. The strangest part of the affair was that no one was drowned or sufficiently injured to prevent his assisting himself. William B. Locke had one bone of his wrist broken, and this was the only injury received worth mentioning.

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In 1859, an agreement between two individuals concerning the building of a division fence was put on record in Bristol.

The line described commenced near "a stake and stones in the center of a culprit, thence south to a stake and stones in the center of the next culprit, thence to stake and stones in the curve of the road, thence to stake and stones in center of next culprit, thence to stake and stones in center of last culprit between our lands."

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At one time there were three men in town by the name of Samuel Sleeper. There was Samuel who settled on the Aaron Sleeper farm; his son Samuel, who afterwards changed his name to Samuel Thomas Worthington Sleeper, and Samuel Sleeper, second, who lived on Hemp hill. It was proposed by the crowd that the first and last named should have titles, and that the one that would furnish the most rum as a treat should be called colonel and the other captain. Samuel Sleeper, second, furnished a gallon and the other only a quart; so Samuel, second, won the title of colonel, and the other was thereafter called captain.

#### HENRY JOHNSON

On the morning of July 13, 1853, the body of Vice Johnson, as he was commonly called, was found in the old stable once connected with the Prescott inn on South Main street. The story of the life of Johnson is a pathetic one. In boyhood, though an orphan, his prospects for life were bright. Of a happy, cheery disposition, he was a welcome guest in every home. In company with Ebenezer Fisk, he was baptized and united with the Free Baptist church. He married, and children came to gladden his home. Then the demon rum got in its work. His friends and his family left him and he became an outcast. For many years he was a prominent figure on the streets of Bristol; sometimes at work, but generally idle; sometimes drunk and sometimes sober; sometimes with three meals a day and as often with none. On Friday, the 12th, he had eaten inordinately, sought a bed on the hay, with no covering, and died before morning. On Sunday the funeral occurred in the Free Baptist church where every seat was occupied, but no relatives accompanied the remains. The officiating clergyman was Rev. Ebenezer Fisk, the boyhood friend and schoolmate of the deceased. He pictured as only he could the career of the deceased, emphasizing that passage of Scripture that says that no drunkard can inherit the kingdom of heaven. Overcome with emotion he sank to his seat, and though no relatives were present, the tears shed were many. The remains were interred in a pauper's grave.

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Less than a hundred years ago the wearing of flowers or



even gay ribbons on the bonnets of the ladies was unknown. A lady dressed tastily, according to modern ideas, would then have been thought to be attracting the attention of the vulgar. About the year 1825, Miss Jane Bartlett entered the old Methodist chapel one Sunday with a flower on her bonnet. This the minister detected, and from the desk commanded her to remove the flower before taking a seat in the house of God. With this the young lady complied.

#### POST-OFFICE BURGLARY

On the early morning of June 24, 1894, post-office burglars visited the Bristol post-office. Curtis E. Eastman, the post-office clerk, who roomed in the rear of the post-office, heard burglars at work on the street door. His room was connected with the post-office by folding doors, across one of which was a table used in the office. Taking a revolver, he crept under the table. The burglars effected an entrance and then made their way behind a counter to the rear of the room where the office was located. One of the burglars then struck a match to light a lamp, and as soon as the light enabled Mr. Eastman to see his man, he fired. The man fell with a groan to the floor. The light went out and both men scrambled to the door, leaving their hats behind them. Upon reaching the door, one of the men fired a shot at Eastman; but that he was slightly disconcerted was seen in the fact that the bullet struck the ceiling over Eastman's head. Mr. Eastman gave his guests a parting shot as they opened the door. John H. Thurston, who lived in the rear of the post-office, was promptly on the scene, the village was aroused, and the burglars traced to the farm of Frank W. Robinson in New Hampton, where they had stolen a horse and carriage and escaped. They were traced by Policeman Frank S. Kirk, through Sanbornton and Gilmanton, to Rochester; but, as neither the government nor individuals stood ready to pay expenses, further search was abandoned and the guilty parties were not apprehended.

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When the question of changing the name of New Chester to Hill was being agitated, the following couplet was found one morning posted in town :

Betwixt Hill and Hell there is but one letter  
If Hill had been called Hell 'twould have been much better

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July 2, 1810, there was recorded in the New Chester records the death of a child. Then followed these lines :

This babes distress our hearts it tore  
Though weak its bowels, swelled and sore,  
Seven long hours cramp fits he bore  
Forty numbered, then all was o'er.

Bears were very numerous for many years after the settlement of the town. One day after Moses Sleeper had moved into his new house, that which now stands in the rear of the brick store in Central square, his wife, Betsey, saw among the recently felled trees near where is now the north corner of White's block, a large black bear. Taking her husband's flint-lock gun, she took deliberate aim, as she stood at a window, and fired, killing bruin at the first fire. At another time Mr. Sleeper had been to assist Lieut. Samuel Worthen kill his hogs, and did not return home till late in the evening, when he found his wife awaiting him with great anxiety, that he might go to the assistance of some travelers whose cries for help she had heard. Mr. Sleeper only laughed and said he would show her later where the travelers were. The next day he went with her to the base of Sugar hill where were found well beaten paths made by the bears in traveling between Newfound and Pemigewasset rivers.

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A bear came into the dooryard of Sherburn Tilton, on the Laura A. Mitchell farm, and carried off a pig.

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One day Tom Lock discovered a bear in a tall tree on the steep hillside south of his home, and he determined to have some sport out of the usual order, so he fell the tree down hill, thinking the fall would kill the bear. Bruin viewed with composure the labor of his enemy when cutting the tree, and clung tenaciously to his perch as the tree was falling, but just before he would have struck the ground, he leaped with the agility of a cat from the tree and, before the hunter could recover from his surprise and grasp his gun, had disappeared in the woods.

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When Elijah Sanborn lived on the Solon Dolloff place, his son, David, was sent by his stepmother after the cows. He went, but saw a bear and returned without the cows. She insisted that he get the cows, which he did with much concern for his personal safety. On returning, he met the bear he had before seen, but it was making rapid strides for the woods with a pig in its mouth which it had taken from a pen near the house.

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John Kidder set out the first apple tree in town on what is now the Fred Kidder farm, south of the present farmhouse. One hundred years later, his grandson, Aaron Kidder, gathered apples from it.

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Col. Tom Fuller, a Revolutionary soldier, who lived near the highest point of the road over New Chester mountain, was

something of a wag. His wife was considered the homeliest woman in town. Far below him on the present road to Hill lived Jonathan Merrill, whose wife was called a close second to Mrs. Fuller in personal beauty, though both were estimable women. One hot day in the midst of haying, Col. Fuller sent a message to Mr. Merrill that he wanted to see him and his wife at his home at once. Supposing some important business must be pending, Mr. and Mrs. Merrill climbed the steep hill and presented themselves at the Fuller home. Placing two chairs side by side Col. Fuller caused Mrs. Merrill to occupy one and Mrs. Fuller the other, and then turning to Mr. Merrill he said, "There, Mr. Merrill, I'll leave it to you to say which is the homeliest woman."

#### THE OLD CANNON

The old iron cannon that did service so many years on Sugar hill was purchased in Portsmouth by the Whigs during the "Tip and Tyler" campaign of 1840. It was brought to Bristol the following winter on a sled by Col. Asa Darling and placed at the base of Sugar hill. It was reported to have been captured from a British war-ship in the war of 1812. It was of massive proportions, about eight feet long and had a bore of about five inches, and was mounted on a ship carriage. It was first placed at the base of Sugar hill near the stone wall on the south side, but soon after conveyed to the top of the hill. It first spoke in Bristol on the morning of March 4, 1841, the day General Harrison was inaugurated president of the United States. The carriage soon disappeared and the gun was gradually worked down the hill by the boys till it reached its original position at the base. Here it remained for many years and was fired on Independence day and other occasions. It was once spiked on the third of July to prevent its being fired the next day. In the early evening of the third, however, the boys went to work like beavers and bored another hole in its massive breach; but just as midnight came and their work seemed near completion the drill broke, and their labors came to naught. A fuse was then procured and an attempt was made to fire it from the muzzle, but this failed. Nothing daunted, a machinist was called from his bed, new drills made and despite the fact that the gun was loaded, drilling was recommenced, a new hole was bored, and just as the sun appeared over the horizon, the gun awoke the echoes for many miles around and a shout of triumph went up from the boys.

During the Civil war this gun was again conveyed to the top of the hill, where it did service as before. Aug. 16, 1877, a reunion of the 12th Regt. N. H. Vols. was held in Bristol. Some young men, thinking the old cannon should speak forth a

welcome on this occasion, loaded it with a heavy charge of powder, then filled it to the mouth with stones, brakes, and earth. Fearing the contents might make the number of the survivors of the war still less, the muzzle was pried around to face the east. It was then fired, and instead of the contents of the gun becoming a danger to life and limb, the village was bombarded with pieces of the gun itself which were hurled through the air by the force of the explosion. No one was injured though there were several narrow escapes. And thus on this memorable occasion this gun spoke its last welcome and ended its career.

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Rev. Walter Sleeper and his wife kept the toll-gate of the Mayhew turnpike on North Main street for some years. One day after a hard snowstorm, a traveler came along and complained bitterly because the road had not been broken out and refused to pay his toll. Mrs. Sleeper, who was alone, declined to unfasten the gate till he had paid, whereupon he took from his pocket a silver dollar and threw it into the snow at her feet. Mrs. Sleeper picked the coin from the snow, went into the house, and returned with the change in small pieces of silver. These she threw at his feet in the snow, and stood by enjoying his hunt for the coins.

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In 1797, Seth Spencer lived on the David S. Batchelder farm, in Bridgewater, in a log cabin. The family consisted of Mr. Spencer, his wife and three children, and his mother. One night, during his absence, Mrs. Spencer found the house on fire. She grasped two of the children and hastened to the door. The door was so heavy she was obliged to put the children down to open it, and while doing this, the flames came upon her so fiercely, and she was burned so badly, she only succeeded in escaping from the house with one of the children; the other two and the mother perished. Mrs. Spencer was over a mile from the nearest neighbor, but she started, carrying in her arms the child she had saved, wrapping it in a part of her own scanty clothing. After having traveled half the distance she was met by men hastening to the burning building, who assisted her as best they could.



## CHAPTER XLIV

### ANNALS OF THE TOWN

AN ACCOUNT OF STORMS, FRESHETS, EPIDEMICS, AND OTHER  
EVENTS OF INTEREST NOT RECORDED ELSEWHERE

There is the moral of all human tales ;  
'Tis but the same rehearsal of the past.

—*Byron.*

1779. Oct. 9, two feet of snow fell. The winter of 1779-'80 was one of unusual severity. Boston harbor froze over.

1780. On Friday, May 19, occurred the "Dark Day." The shades of night fell at noon, and a deep gloom settled on the people, many fearing that the end of the world was coming. This darkness continued more or less for several days and was undoubtedly caused by forest fires in the northern part of the state and in Canada.

1785. April 20, snow covered all the fences, and the warm days and cold nights caused a crust sufficiently hard and strong to allow traveling in any direction with horses and oxen, in the early part of the day. Planting was as early as usual. In October, there was a great freshet. More rain than usual fell in September; the ground was well saturated, and the greater part of the immense rainfall that followed ran into the lakes and streams, producing the greatest freshet ever known on the Pemigewasset. During three days preceding Oct. 23, nine inches of rain fell and much damage was done on the low lands, and some cattle were drowned. A record made by the town clerk of New Chester said the water was "about thirty feet above the bed of the river." Simeon Cross, who lived on the intervalle in Bridgewater, was obliged to move out of his cabin in the night. He later built on higher ground, but the water never again reached so high a point. Still greater damage was done in the eastern part of the state and in Maine.

1788. Lewis McBrian was fined two shillings for swearing "one profane oath."

1794. The spring of this year was remarkably early. Apple trees were in bloom the middle of April, and the first of May fruit had commenced to form. May 17, there was a very high wind, and the temperature constantly fell till the next day, when water froze to the thickness of more than a quarter of an inch. The fruit crop was ruined.

1799. The news of the death of George Washington was brought to town by Mr. Craige on his way home to Bridgewater from Boston, about two weeks after the death occurred. He wore crape on his arm. The news made a profound impression on the people.

1801. During the first week in June there was a very severe frost, and all crops were thought to be ruined; but the year was a fruitful one.

1802. The summer of this year a great amount of rain fell, and there was a freshet in September.

1804. On the 9th of October occurred a storm which had never been equaled in the memory of the oldest people then living, and its like, at so early a date, has not since been known. Two feet of snow fell, most of which remained on the ground till the next spring. A hard gale prevailed; fruit was stripped from the trees and lost, and large numbers of cattle and sheep perished. The potato crop was not gathered till the frost left the ground the next spring. Great damage was done to shipping along the coast.

1806. June 16, total eclipse of the sun.

1807. In February of this year, there was very high water in the streams caused by heavy rains and melting of the snow. Many bridges were carried away.

1810. The chief event this year was "Cold Friday," which occurred Jan. 19. The early part of the preceding day the weather was mild, but later a cold wind sprang up and the thermometer began to drop. The next morning the wind blew a gale and the thermometer had fallen fifty degrees. At Sanborn-ton the record was made of twenty-five degrees below zero and several lives were lost. The gale did much damage to timber, and the intense cold caused much suffering, but there were no fatalities in this town. The great wind increased the severity of the weather, piercing the heaviest clothing, and finding a ready entrance to the rude homes of the people.

1814. Monday, Dec. 6, heavy shock of earthquake, continuing forty-five seconds.

1815. Spotted fever prevailed to considerable extent this year and there were many fatalities. People stricken with this disease were frequently carried off within twenty-four hours. Among the fatal cases were four children of John Favor.

1815. The great gale of Sept. 23, which did great damage in the central portion of the state, appears to have visited New Chester and Bridgewater more lightly, though much damage was done to fruit trees and buildings.

1816. Spotted fever again raged. In January, Ephraim Quimby lost six children in five days. All were buried in two graves.

1816. The first months of this year were remarkable for

the small amount of snow that fell and the warm weather that prevailed, the summer months as the coldest on record in this state. Snow fell and ice formed every month of the year. June 11, two inches of snow came.<sup>1</sup> So great was the damage done and suffering caused that the year was called "Poverty year." Farmers made heroic efforts to save their crops, and whole nights were spent in feeding huge bonfires near the corn to keep the frost from at least a part; but on the night of Aug. 19, there came a frost that bonfires could not drive away and all the corn in town was killed. There was not enough raised for seed the next year, and provisions of all kinds went to fabulous prices. The next March hay was worth from \$25 to \$30 per ton; corn, \$2 per bushel, and other articles in proportion. Many had no hay at all the latter part of the winter, and could not obtain any, and many cattle died.

1817. This season the crops were plenteous and farmers prospered. The weather was propitious and no frost came till the 29th of September. Sunday morning, Oct. 5, while the people were at church, a heavy earthquake shock was felt.

1821. In the spring of this year spotted fever again raged to some extent in Bristol and adjoining towns.

1822. An epidemic of typhoid fever occurred this year. The heirs of Thomas W. Thompson had a dam across the river just below the bridge from Central square. This dam was so high that it caused the overflow of much of the land between the river and the cemetery. A lawsuit ensued, and to comply with the order of the court, the present dam was built a couple of rods farther down the stream. The new dam was completed and the old one removed in August, uncovering a large tract of land; and the hot August sun caused the air to be filled with miasma. The result was an epidemic of typhoid fever. The fever raged for four months or more, and in all there were forty or fifty cases and several deaths. Among the deaths were Julia Maria Minot, a daughter of Hon. James Minot, and John Hale, a joiner. Miss Minot was a most beautiful and accomplished young lady. She came home from school to assist in caring for others.

1824. A freshet occurred February 12, which is thus described by the *New Hampshire Patriot* of Feb. 16: "On Thursday last a flood, the most appalling and tremendous ever known in this part of the country, took place. The extreme cold of the preceding week was followed on Tuesday and Wednesday by southerly winds, which increased to a gale, during a greater part of which time the rain descended in

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<sup>1</sup> "The barn on the Fellows place, now Horace N. Emmons's, was raised June 12, 1816. I was there barefooted and there was snow on the ground."—Aaron Kidder.

torrents. The ice which covered the ground prevented the earth from receiving the water, and the whole rushed into the streams and rivers. In a few hours the thick ice gave way and swept bridges and everything else in its way into a mass of undistinguished ruin." Immense quantities of logs on the banks of the rivers were carried down stream. All the bridges north of the turnpike bridge at Boscawen, except Central bridge at Bristol, and Livermore's bridge at Campton, were carried away, as was also nearly every bridge on Baker's river. Among those lost were the Pemigewasset bridge at Bristol and Union bridge at Hill. The entire damage to the bridges of the state was estimated at over \$200,000.

1826. This year was remarkable for its two freshets and drouth. On the 24th of March rain fell in torrents, and raised the water in the rivers to an unusual height. The rivers were at that time locked in ice two feet thick, but this was broken up and the highest water since the freshet of 1785 was the result. The summer of this year was a very dry one, and the crop of grass was very light, but the heavy rains of August made fall feed more plentiful than that of June. In consequence of these extremes there was much sickness this season. From the 10th to the 15th of August, there were frequent and heavy rains and the record of rainfall at Salem, Mass., during this time was eight and seven-tenths inches; for the entire month fourteen inches, but there is no record of the amount that fell in Bristol. On the 28th, the day of the Willey slide at the White mountains, occurred the largest rainfall of the month, and the Pemigewasset rose to a great height. Immense damage was done to roads, bridges, and other property along the rivers and to growing crops. Two carding-mills and clothing works in Hill, belonging to George W. Sumner and Timothy Favor, were carried off.

1827. A great fall of rain came April 25 and did great damage throughout the state.

1827. The barn on the Moses H. Bradley place was struck by lightning and consumed.

1830. In the middle of July of this year, occurred very heavy rains and there was a great freshet in the Pemigewasset valley. At the Moore house, just above the Pemigewasset bridge, the water was two feet deep in the house and ten feet deep in the highway. The dam at Moore's Mills was carried off at this time and great damage was done to growing crops. This freshet was preceded by a drouth and extensive forest fires.

1832. Sept. 26, heavy frost. Snow covered the tops of all the hills.

1833. Voted that cows, "not unruly," may run at large from May 15 to Oct. 15.



1833. On the night of Nov. 13, a grand meteoric display occurred. At times the meteors were so numerous that they resembled a shower of fire. Many exploded and there was a constant noise made by the meteors passing through the air. Great fear seized the people. The display continued till daylight.

1835. The summer of this year was exceedingly dry. This drouth was succeeded by one of the longest and most severe winters on record. Nov. 23, there came a large fall of snow and from this time for twenty weeks there was uninterrupted sleighing. On the first of April the snow was four feet deep in the woods. Some of the coldest weather on record was experienced this winter. Dec. 16, was the coldest for many years, the thermometer going even lower than on "Cold Friday." A strong wind was blowing but not with the severity of that day, consequently there was not so much suffering. Another feature of this season was a winter water famine. Manufacturing establishments on the streams had to suspend work; wells and springs were low and farmers and others had to go long ways for water for domestic purposes and to water stock.

1835. In February, small-pox broke out in the family of Daniel McMurphy. Dr. J. S. Eaton, the attending physician, at once inoculated the whole family except one daughter who refused to be thus treated. She alone had the small-pox in a virulent form, and came to death's door, but recovered with a terribly pitted face. The disease appearing in other parts of the town, a pest-house was established, and Dr. Eaton became the "resident" physician. Twenty-six cases were here treated, but none died. When the inmates had sufficiently recovered, smoke, soap, and water were liberally used, new clothes were furnished and the inmates returned home. Soon after, Dr. Eaton called on another patient, and, as was his custom, ran his hand through his hair frequently while talking. In this way he communicated the disease, and there was another run of the small-pox in a more severe form. Another pest-house was established, and again the doctor was shut up with his patients. The doctor gave his hair particular attention before again mingling with the people. During the prevalence of this epidemic, the greatest terror prevailed among all classes. Small-pox several times appeared in this community later, but it never again assumed the form of an epidemic or caused such alarm among the people. A building that stood between Clark's corner and the Borough road was used as a pest-house.

1837. Early frosts did great damage to the corn crops.

1839. The latter part of January of this year there was a very heavy rain and an ice freshet was the result. The river continued at a very high mark for nearly a week.

1840. The first brass band in Bristol was organized in

1840. Frank Atkinson, of Boscawen, was instructor. Norman Greenough played a trombone; Samuel Felt, the ophicleide; Oliver B. Fogg, trumpet; Gustavus W. Ingalls and James Prescott, C bugles; Kiah Wells, E flat bugle; Philip Mitchell and Andrew J. Crockett, clarinets; William C. Lovejoy, flute, and James T. Sanborn, C flat cornet. There have been a large number of band organizations in town which have had an existence of only a few years each. In 1867, there were two first-class cornet bands in town. One was led and instructed by George H. Ingalls, and the other by Edwin S. Foster. Isaac B. Gordon was at the head of the band organizations for several years as instructor and leader.

1841. In September of this year occurred a most disastrous northeast storm. Rain and snow fell alternately, and great damage was done to fruit and other trees. On the coast great damage and loss of life occurred. During this gale fifty-seven fishermen, of Truro, Mass., were lost by shipwreck.

1842. "The season had been unusually forward till June 11, when it snowed at Bristol and in all northern New Hampshire at noon. The night following was one of gloom, like winter in the midst of summer; and in the morning following horses' hoofs in the highway broke the frozen ground, and fields and forest were as black as Erebus. Apples as large as bullets were frozen as hard. Strange to say the year was wonderfully productive."—Dr. J. S. Eaton in *Enterprise* Nov. 27, 1880.<sup>1</sup>

1843. June 17 of this year there were snow squalls during the day. There were very heavy rains this season, and the lake rose to a great height. The water covered the road just north of the bridge over the river at the outlet of the lake and a flat stone was set in the ground to mark the high water point.

1849. This year, a Mr. Simonds, of Alexandria, met at the depot in Bristol a Mr. Ballou, who was sick with typhoid fever, and conveyed him to his home. At that time there was not a case of typhoid fever in this section. Soon after, Mr. Simonds was taken sick with this disease, and it spread till one physician, Dr. I. S. Chase, had fifty-two cases in Alexandria and Bristol. In all there were nearly one hundred cases and several deaths.

1849. This year there was a severe drouth in the summer and fall and great forest fires in the fall.

1849. In December of this year and January of 1850, small-pox again prevailed in Bristol and Alexandria. There

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<sup>1</sup>Dr. J. S. Eaton was a man of superior information and judgment, and consequently when he advised his neighbors to pour cold water on the blackened vegetation Sunday morning as a sure means of saving it, men, women, and children went to work carrying water to save even a part of the crops. Fortunately water was scarce and the work was hard, for all vegetation treated in this way was killed.

were eight or nine deaths from this cause and great excitement prevailed.

1852. Snow came late the preceding winter and remained late on the ground the following spring. A great snow storm commenced April 15, and continued for twenty-four hours. On the 17th, a heavy rain commenced which continued for three days. The Pemigewasset rose to a great height and nearly all the mills on the stream were compelled to suspend work on account of high water. No frost till Oct. 29.

1857. The winter of 1856-'57 was one of the most severe on record. Thirty-two snow storms. Snow was more than six feet deep on the level. January was the coldest month on record. The thermometer was nearly all the time below zero, and several times went to twenty degrees below. The 24th was called the coldest day in New Hampshire since the state was settled. At Franconia the thermometer registered forty-nine degrees below zero and at many other places forty. At Bristol, where the cold is never as great as immediately north, it was thirty degrees below.

1857. For a number of years about this time, Joseph Kidder did all of the job teaming in this village with one horse, besides carrying on his farm, that now owned by his son, U. H. Kidder, and occupied by David M. Chase, on North Main street.

1861. In the early morning of July 4, occurred the greatest conflagration that ever visited this town. The entire west side of Central square was destroyed, entailing an estimated loss of \$30,000. The fire originated in the basement of a store that stood near the south half of Rollins's block; but how was never known. It was thought at the time that it was caused by boys celebrating the Fourth, but this was easily disproved.

1862. The first of April the snow was of such depth that all the walls and fences were covered. The days were quite warm and the nights cold so there were hard crusts mornings, strong enough to bear heavy teams. Each morning hundreds of men, women, and children of Bristol were seen coasting from the base of New Chester mountain to Beech street.

1863. Diphtheria raged extensively.

1869. October 4 commenced what was considered the most severe rain storm and freshet since 1826. In a little more than twenty-four hours eight inches of rain fell, and the Pemigewasset and other streams overflowed their banks and great damage was done to crops and other property along the streams. The roads were badly washed and large quantities of timber, lumber, and debris passed down the Pemigewasset.

1870. About this year the first hard coal was brought to Bristol. Now 1,000 tons, exclusive of soft coal used at the mills, are sold in town.



1871. On the night of Dec. 7, fire again raged on the west side of Central square. This time the fire commenced in the tin-shop next to the bridge and was only stayed by the brick walls of the Cavis block. This block was badly gutted and White's block was cleared of its contents.

1877. Aug. 16, the reunion of the survivors of the 12th Regiment occurred in Bristol. A permanent organization was effected. There was a parade, a free dinner, a large number of speeches from the band stand in Central square by visitors, and a ball at the town hall in the evening.

1878. On the 21st of April, the store of Hon. Cyrus Taylor was burglarized, and a sum of money and some wearing apparel were stolen. In September, following, a young man by the name of Herman Scott was arrested for the crime. He implicated another young man, by the name of Joseph Strickford, who worked on the same farm as himself at the time of the crime. Many believed Strickford innocent and contributed money for his defence and the people took sides for and against the accused to an unusual degree. Scott was sent to prison but Strickford was acquitted. Subsequent events convinced most of Strickford's friends that they had aided an unworthy person. He soon after disappeared from town.

1878. On the morning of Tuesday, Oct. 3, an attempt was made to rob the Bristol Savings bank, then located in George M. Cavis's store. Explosives were used which blew off the outer door of the safe and blew out both the windows of the room. The inner door of the safe was not opened, and the robbers, supposed to have been four in number, became frightened and left without obtaining booty. No serious efforts were made to apprehend the criminals and they escaped capture.

1878. On Monday, Dec. 9, five or six inches of snow fell. Tuesday rain fell copiously all day, and Wednesday morning all the snow had disappeared and the streams were at flood height. The Pemigewasset was within three feet of the top of the wall at the depot, and the river was filled with debris and drift wood. At the foot of the lake a stone set to mark the height of the water in 1843, was covered to the depth of ten inches. The New Hampton stage reached this village by the south road. The Groton stage driver came down the west side of the lake, left his stage on the north side of Fowler's river, crossed the river in a boat, and proceeded to Bristol afoot over Hemp hill. For a third of a mile north and south of Smith's river the railroad bed was washed away to the depth of from three to six feet. The storm extended all over New England, destroying some lives and a large amount of property.

1878. John Wilmon, twelve years old, was saved by tramps from drowning.

1878. Feb. 21, the thermometer registered twelve degrees



below zero, and the roads were badly drifted. No mail left Bristol for the north. June 6 and 7, heavy frosts; crops badly damaged.

1878. Jan. 7, the house at the corner of High and Prospect streets was consumed by fire.

1880. May 22, Bristol and vicinity were visited by very severe thunder showers and a gale. One barn was unroofed and other buildings damaged by wind, while several were struck by lightning. The summer was unusually dry. Many wells failed, streams were low and manufacturers all over the state suffered for want of water.

1881. The winter of 1880-'81 was a very severe one. Nov. 23, six inches of snow fell affording good sleighing. Two days later the thermometer registered twelve degrees below zero. For eighty-three days after the first storm the sun was not warm enough to soften the snow in the highways. The week following Jan. 29 was the hardest of the winter. On the date named a blizzard commenced in the morning which increased in fury during the day and night following and the next day the roads were impassable. Travel by rail was much impeded. July 25, there was a very severe thunder shower, accompanied with wind and hail. In fourteen hours four and one-fifth inches of rain fell.

1881. Sept. 6th of this year occurred the "Yellow Day." For several days previous, the smell of smoke had filled the air. There were no clouds, but the sun and sky were red in the early morning. As noon approached this changed to a yellow, and everything to be seen, buildings, foliage, and the sky, assumed the same shade. It seemed strange and weird, and an unusual soberness rested on everyone, as through expecting some coming calamity. Lamps were necessary in dwellings and stores, cattle came to the barns as for the night, and hens went to roost. In some instances schools were dismissed. Two or three days passed before the atmosphere was as clear as usual.

1881. September 25 and 26, memorial services were held on the occasion of the death of President Garfield. Sunday, Sept. 25, appropriate services were held in all the churches, and all were tastily and appropriately draped. On Monday, in response to a call issued by the selectmen, all places of business were closed and memorial services were held at the town hall. At 1 o'clock the bells were tolled, and at 1:30 a procession was formed in Central square in the following order:

Marshal, Capt. W. A. Beckford

Bristol Cornet Band—sixteen pieces

Nelson Post, No. 40, G. A. R., C. N. Drake, commander—  
forty-five men

Union Lodge, No. 79, A. F. & A. M., I. A. Chase, master—  
thirty-six men

Stark Engine Company, George H. Knights, captain—thirty-five men

The procession moved slowly to the town hall which was soon densely packed. The hall was tastily decorated. On a background of the stars and stripes was a picture of Garfield, and under it his memorable words spoken in New York on the occasion of the assassination of President Lincoln: "God reigns and the government at Washington still lives." On the platform was a white monument, about which on three sides were gathered the members of the Grand Army, who opened the exercises with a portion of the G. A. R. memorial service. Hon. L. W. Fling presided, and the singing was by the combined choirs of the village under the leadership of David P. Prescott. There was speaking by the president, ex-Gov. N. S. Berry, Rev. H. S. Thompson, Rev. A. B. Sherwood, Dr. H. B. Fowler, I. A. Chase, Esq., F. M. Beckford, Esq., H. A. Randolph. To close the band played "Nearer My God to Thee."

1881. During the night of Oct. 6, there was a severe earthquake shock. It sounded like the rumbling of a heavy train of cars, and passed from west to east. Many were awakened from sleep.

1882. Monday, Jan. 23, the thermometer registered fifteen degrees below zero, and the wind blew a gale; Tuesday morning, twenty-eight below; Wednesday, clear and still, the thermometer indicating thirty degrees below. From the first to the 25th of September, 9.90 inches of rain fell.

1882. Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 19, a shock of earthquake was distinctly felt, passing from east to west.

1883. James T. Sanborn brought to town the first carload of pressed hay from Canada, which was sold at \$18 per ton. Domestic hay was selling then at \$20 per ton.

1883. A severe winter drouth prevailed all over New England in the winter of 1882-'83. Many manufactories were idle for want of water to turn the wheels. Bristol did not feel the drouth at all as enough water was stored in Newfound lake to furnish a supply, and the lake could have been drawn down five feet below its lowest point that year. March 8, the thermometer registered thirty degrees below zero. June 20, there was a great rain, and a freshet on the Pemigewasset river. The flume at Franconia was enlarged at this time and the hanging boulder carried from its place. Less than half an inch of rain fell during August, and the month was pronounced the driest for twelve years. December 23, the thermometer dropped to twenty-two degrees below zero.

1883. In June of this year, the Rocky Mountain locust first made its appearance in this section. On the meadows of the Pemigewasset valley vast numbers did great damage to the growing crops. The next year they came in still greater num-

bers. One farmer caught ninety-two bushels by a simple contrivance. A box ten feet long, four inches wide and seven deep was attached to a pair of wheels. Back of the box was a tin a foot high. In moving these wheels through the grass the grasshoppers would rise, strike against the tin and fall into the box, which contained a liquid composed of sour milk, kerosene oil, and water, which killed them.

1884. January 22, the thermometer was eighteen degrees below zero at 5 a. m.; at noon, thirty-two above. Week ending March 13, twenty-four inches of snow fell. April 17, there was a very heavy rain. A portion of the Rollins saw-mill dam was carried away, and a landslide on Water street buried the road several feet deep.

1884. May 17, a shock supposed to have been an electrical disturbance occurred about ten o'clock in the evening. There was a loud explosion thought by many at the time to be the bursting of a boiler at one of the mills. The shock was purely local, not extending over twenty miles.

1884. May 30, the ground was white with apple blossoms and freshly fallen snow.

1884. A lithograph of Bristol village was made and sold this year.

1884. July 19, there occurred a succession of very severe thunder storms. The lightning was incessant and vivid, and the rain fell in torrents. One cloud passed over Bristol Peak from which the forked lightning fell in rapid succession, a bolt from which struck the barn of Caleb L. Clay, and in a moment the structure was a mass of flames. All his buildings were destroyed together with fifteen tons of hay, two hogs, and sixty-five hens. The smoke from burning buildings in Hill could be seen from Mr. Clay's at the same time.

1885. Jan. 11, rain commenced to fall and continued all that day and the next, bringing the Pemigewasset to flood height. All the ice was broken up and carried down stream. An ice dam formed near Smith's river bridge, flooding the railroad. When the dam broke it left the track covered with ice for thirty rods to the depth of four feet. The highway on the New Hampton side of the river was also made impassable by the ice. There were eighty-six inches of water on the apron at the outlet of the lake, an increase of fifty-five inches above the lowest point in the fall.

1885. Mar. 1, snow in places in the highway was from ten to fifteen feet deep. This was softened by the warm rays of the sun, and traveling was rendered very difficult. Mar. 13 and 18, twenty degrees below zero; Mar. 23, fourteen degrees below zero. This month was distinguished for its severity — below zero every morning but two for three weeks. For three days preceding Apr. 25, July weather prevailed, the thermometer ris-



ing to eighty-two in the shade. Apr. 26, snow fell to the depth of four inches.

#### GRANT MEMORIAL SERVICES

1885. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant died July 23, and on Saturday, Aug. 8, memorial services were held at the town hall. Capt. R. W. Musgrove presided. The Bristol Cornet band escorted Nelson Post, G. A. R., to the hall, where the Post performed the burial service of the order. Addresses were made by Rev. Mr. Sleeper, of Worcester, Mass.; Rev. J. N. Murdock, D. D., of Boston; ex-Gov. N. S. Berry, Rev. John A. Bowler, and others. The hall was filled to the door. The addresses were eloquent tributes to the distinguished services of the deceased.

1885. Aug. 13, two and one-half inches of rain fell, making seven inches in less than three weeks. The Pemigewasset rose twelve feet in twenty-four hours and a large amount of driftwood and debris was carried down stream. Railroads were badly washed.

1885. Aug. 25, the first frost of the season — eighty-five days from the last snow and freeze of spring.

1885. Dec. 31, rain commenced to fall. This was Thursday and the rain continued almost incessantly till Tuesday following. During a portion of Tuesday the lake rose one inch each hour, and the water measured ten feet, eight inches on the apron of the dam. At the east end of the bridge at the foot of the lake the water was a foot deep in the highway. Just before the train started Tuesday morning, a landslide, just north of the engine-house, buried the track three feet deep and a boulder six feet in diameter was lodged between the rails. The falls on Newfound river were in their most beautiful robes. Considerable damage was done to highways. Total rainfall for 1885 was forty-six inches.

1886. The freshet just described was followed by a severe snow storm. Colder weather set in and the thermometer continued to drop until Jan. 13, when it stood at twenty-three below zero. The rushing waters on the falls were encased in ice and the ice work which rapidly formed presented a magnificent sight. The high water and ice combined caused the mills to shut down, some for ten days. Great damage was done to trees from the weight of ice, those a foot through being in some instances broken down.

1886. The week ending Mar. 4 was very severe; several inches of new snow, a gale of wind, and ten degrees below zero. Numerous chimneys were blown down and other damage was done. Drifts were fifteen feet high, business was suspended, and mail communications were interrupted.

1886. During the week preceding Nov. 12, four inches of



rain fell, raising the water in Newfound lake to ten feet on the apron, a foot higher than the usual high-water mark. The rainfall for 1886 was 41.50 inches. The year was remarkable for its absence of thunder storms.

#### THE SPRAGUE CASE

1886. The case of Mrs. Emma Sprague against the town was a noted one in its day. On the 14th of June, 1878, Mrs. Sprague was driving down the hill near the farmhouse of J. Martin Sleeper, when, as claimed, the horse stepped on a rolling stone and Mrs. Sprague was thrown to the ground. Her arm was broken and she claimed she struck on the wheel in such a way as to cause a hernia. The broken arm never healed. Suit was brought against the town for \$5,000, but contested on the ground that the accident was the result of contributory negligence in driving a stumbling horse recklessly. The case was heard by the jury at the May term of 1880, in Plymouth, and resulted in a disagreement—six to six. The counsel for the plaintiff were Sargent & Chase, Chase & Streeter; Bingham, Mitchell & Batchellor; Burrows & Jewell; K. E. Dearborn, and N. B. Bryant; for the defense, L. W. Fling and Judge Carpenter. After the disagreement of the jury the *ad damnum* was increased to \$10,000, and the case was put over from term to term till May, 1884, when Hon. J. S. H. Frink, of Greenland, was appointed referee. The hearing by him commenced at Bristol, Jan. 5, 1885, and occupied twelve days, over seventy witnesses being examined. The arguments occurred at the town hall, which was filled with the people of this section. Hon. L. W. Fling spoke for two and one-half hours on the defense, and Hon. Daniel Barnard the same length of time for the plaintiff. The counsel at this hearing were Barnard & Barnard, K. E. Dearborn, Pike & Barnard for the plaintiff; and Fling & Chase, and Hon. William M. Chase for the defense. John H. Brown and Robert A. Horner, who were selectmen at the time of the accident, were the agents of the town. The referee found for the defendant and at the November term of court, at Plymouth, judgment was rendered on the report. Exceptions were heard at the law term at Concord, July 31, 1885, but were not sustained. The last act in this famous case occurred Mar. 11, 1886, when the bondsmen of Mrs. Sprague paid the town \$800 to reimburse it for costs incurred.

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1887. The winter of 1886-'87 was noted for its deep snows and severe storms; Jan. 20, thirty degrees below zero. Eleven feet of snow fell during the winter and the first of April the snow in the woods was still four feet deep. Nearly five months of continuous sleighing. May 29, distinct shock of earthquake. Summer intensely hot. The first week in June registered nine-

ty-five to one hundred degrees in the shade during the middle of the day. For three weeks in August, the lowest point reached at noon was eighty-eight degrees in the shade.

1887. The twenty-second annual reunion of the survivors of the 12th Regt. N. H. Vols., War of the Rebellion, was held in Bristol, June 24.

1887. Dec. 23, a frightened horse ran from Cyrus Taylor's store through Central and Water streets to the depot, then took to the railroad and traveled three miles to Smith's river bridge, sixty feet long, which it crossed on the stringers. He was seen to approach and leave the bridge at a rapid rate, but in crossing he proceeded as deliberately as a man would walk.

1888. Jan. 24, twenty-seven degrees below zero. Heavy snows. Elbridge Tilton, his oxen and sled were swept from the road by a snowslide on his private road. Travel was interrupted. Another great snow storm Mar. 12. The roads were impassable. Town meeting was held on the 13th; but not a voter living outside of the village was in attendance. The train was unable to leave the station. No mail arrived from the north for six days; none from New Hampton from Monday till Thursday. This was called the worse storm for a generation. The entire telegraph system of New England was prostrated. The snow was wet and froze as it fell.

1888. April 21, a hack got stalled in a snow-drift on Prospect street and was unable to move till the road agent came with a pair of oxen and broke out the road.

1888. June 23, from ninety-nine to one hundred and four degrees in the shade — said to be the hottest day for eighteen years.

1888. Sept. 5, frost killed all the corn.

1889. Jan. 13, Millard T. Robinson, in company with a woman, was driving in the highway a mile south of this village, when the horse became frightened by a sawing machine near the traveled track. Robinson was thrown out, receiving a bad scalp wound, the woman was injured and the sleigh damaged. These parties and C. C. Kendrick, the owner of the sleigh, brought suits against the town. The defense was contributory negligence. Judgment was rendered for the plaintiffs as follows: C. C. Kendrick, \$130; Millard T. Robinson, \$1,500; Mrs. H. M. Brooks, \$300. The costs were \$462.65; total, \$2,392.65.

1889. June 28, a strawberry festival was held at the town hall by Train Rifles, Capt. O. B. Ray, to raise funds to aid the sufferers by the Johnstown flood.

1889. In November, young men took a live fox to Mayhew island for the purpose of breaking in a fox dog. The fox was let out and given a good start and then the dog was placed on its tracks. The fox not coming around, as was expected by

the hunters, investigation was made, and it was discovered swimming for dear life towards the main land which it reached and escaped to the woods.

1890. Mar. 28, there was a slight shock of an earthquake.

1890. Dec. 26, eighteen inches of snow fell.

1891. In the early months of this year the grip raged. Nearly one-half the people were sick; in some cases whole families were prostrated. The doctors were overtaxed and there were hardly enough well to care for the sick. Great anxiety prevailed.

1891. May 1, a sharp shock of earthquake. Doors rattled, dishes moved on shelves, and there was a noise like that of a heavy team moving over frozen ground.

1891. Aug. 1, the Ezekiel Follansbee farmhouse on the west side of the lake was destroyed by fire. Uriah C. Rowen, of Groton, was accused of setting the fire from motives of revenge to the tenant, Nicholas Adams. Rowen was tried, convicted, and sentenced to ten years in state prison. He served about seven years when he was pardoned. Aaron G. Waite, an accomplice, turned state evidence and was set at liberty.

1891. One of the hottest Septembers on record. Sept. 24, ninety-two degrees in the shade.

1891. Oct. 29, the water on the apron at the outlet of the lake was drawn down to fifty-five inches, the lowest since 1886, when the lake was drawn down to thirty-nine inches to allow the cutting down of the sand bar above the bridge. The usual low-water mark is about seventy-two inches.

1892. The grip raged again during the first months of this year. Its visitation was even more severe than in 1891. During January and February, twenty deaths in Bristol, mostly among elderly people, which was more than twice the average for these months.

1892. Mar. 10, the snow was practically gone. Business on the roads was done on wheels. But little snow during the winter. Feb. 4, a large number of crows appeared.

1892. June 15, one hundred degrees in the shade in several places in Bristol village; at depot, one hundred and two. June 24 to 28, four inches of rain fell in ninety-six hours. Sept. 26, there was a very heavy thunder storm. A horse belonging to H. N. Emmons was struck and killed in the pasture by lightning.

#### COLUMBUS DAY

1892. Columbus Day, Oct. 21, was observed by a great gathering at the town hall. At one o'clock a parade was formed on the schoolhouse grounds in the following order:

Police — John H. Thurston and Eben Seaver  
Chief Marshal, J. L. Child — mounted



Bristol Cornet Band — I. B. Gordon, leader

Train Rifles — Capt. O. B. Ray

Nelson Post, No. 40, G. A. R. — D. K. Cummings, commander

Board of Education and teachers

School children — 150 in number

After parading the streets the column marched to the town hall. The G. A. R., the band, speakers, and board of education filled all the space on the platform, and the Train Rifles, schools, and the general public more than filled all the seats on the floor, many being obliged to stand. R. W. Musgrove, chairman of the board, presided, and the following program was rendered: The proclamation of the president of the United States was read by Prof. A. T. Seymour, principal of the high school; prayer was offered by Rev. David Calley; the Musgrove family sang "Hurrah for Old New England"; Miss Alice A. Fellows read an essay, "Columbia"; Miss Jessie D. Alexander gave a recitation, "Columbus"; Edward M. Briggs read an essay, "The Future of America." There were also essays on "Columbus" by J. Elwyn Roby and Miss Clara Thomas. A song was sung by Rose Follansbee and there was singing by the school, music by the band, and speaking by Rev. J. W. Savage, Hon. L. W. Fling, and Hon. I. A. Chase. In behalf of Mrs. W. L. Chase, G. B. Cavis presented the school with a flag, 8 x 16 feet, which was accepted in behalf of the school by the presiding officer. At the conclusion of these services the line was again formed and proceeded to the school grounds where the flag was raised by a detail of the G. A. R. on a pole fifty feet high on the school building, erected by G. B. Cavis. In nearly all the other districts in town exercises were held later in observance of the day.

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1893. Mar. 2, great depth of snow and very severe weather for some days; traveling very difficult. A man in Groton perished in the storm. During the winter a great many water pipes were frozen. Soon after the first of May a pipe was taken up from the head of Central street, supposed to have been frozen the previous winter when it was discovered that the lead pipe and brass nipple had been melted instead. For about six inches no semblance of a pipe remained. The great mystery was what melted it. The nearest approach to a thunder storm that had occurred since the pipe was supposed to have been frozen was a very mild one the first week in April. Tall buildings stood within forty feet of the spot on three sides and there were three electric light poles within about the same distance.

1893. The first iron bridge in town was erected this year, spanning the river at the outlet of the lake. The iron cost \$725.

1893. July 24, there was a very heavy storm of wind and rain. Fences were demolished, shade and fruit trees badly damaged, and hundreds of forest trees blown down.



1893. Nov. 27, a perceptible earthquake shock occurred at 11.45 a. m. Loud rumbling sound and buildings were shaken.

1893. First agricultural fair held in Bristol Sept. 19-21. One was held each year after this till 1901.

1895. Previous to April 10, there had been no rain since July, 1894, and wells which never before failed were dry. The water in the lake was the lowest for forty years, the depth on the apron being only twenty-eight inches. Mills were short of water and mill owners were alarmed. On Monday, April 10, rain commenced to fall in the morning and continued all day; at night it increased in violence and during two days three inches of rain fell; the streams were bank full and the water in the lake was raised three feet. But this was only a beginning. On Friday following the rain began again to fall in torrents, and continued through Saturday and Sunday, seeming to increase in violence as the hours wore away. This was accompanied by a strong wind. Monday morning the storm had ceased, but hour after hour the streams continued to rise and a freshet of no ordinary proportions was on. The Pemigewasset was a roaring torrent, flooding fields, overflowing roads, and doing an immense amount of damage. At the depot the water was within two feet of the top of the wall and washed the earth from the bed of the track, undermining it for several rods. One-third of the way between Bristol and Hill the track was under water, in many places the sleepers stood on end, the rails twisted badly, and the bed of the road gone. In the railroad bridge across Smith's river the water was seven feet deep above the rails. Shortly after seven o'clock Monday morning the Ashland toll bridge came down the Pemigewasset; it struck with great force the bank wall at the depot, when its timbers snapped like stubble; it turned over and continued its course down stream a mass of debris. In its course it struck the Pemigewasset bridge and moved it some inches. A large number of bridges in Bristol and vicinity were carried off and the damage to highways and bridges in town was estimated at \$2,000. The same state of affairs existed all over the state. The running of trains was suspended for several days, there were no mails and but little telegraphic communication. Above Smith's river bridge the water left the channel and crossed the road south of the bridge; the only thing that prevented great damage here was the fact that the water from the Pemigewasset had backed up so far that it met the water of this stream before it reached the highway. The falls on the Newfound and Smith's rivers were scenes of rare beauty. The water in the highway at the foot of the lake was two feet deep. In some places this freshet registered higher than that of 1869, while in others not so high. A large amount of lumber was lost on the Pemigewasset and thirty millions were said to have been lost on the Connecticut.

1896. Jan. 6, thermometer twenty-four below zero. Mill wheels never before frozen were stopped by the cold. Schools were closed and most out-door work was suspended. On the first of March occurred a very disastrous flood. On Friday night, Feb. 28, rain commenced to fall and fell copiously with but little cessation till Sunday night—four and one-fourth inches in all. This carried off most of the snow and added to the floods from above, making a freshet of no small proportions. During Monday Newfound lake rose two inches an hour, and the water on the apron at the outlet of the lake reached a depth of ten feet seven inches. At Bristol the Pemigewasset did not reach the height of the freshet of 1895 by nearly a foot, but south of here the record exceeded that and the damage was far greater. At Manchester the damage by loss of bridges and otherwise, reached half a million, and 8,000 operatives were out of work for a week; at Lowell 20,000 operatives were thrown out of work. On the Lake Shore railroad nineteen out of twenty-two bridges were carried away, and on the Northern, twelve between Franklin and West Lebanon. The storm was still more destructive in the east part of the state and extended over the entire northern part of New England. On the Bristol Branch railroad the chief damage was south of Hill where for several rods the road bed was washed away. Trains did not leave Bristol on Monday, but, Tuesday afternoon, managed to reach Franklin.

1896. Aug. 6 to 13, a very hot wave—ninety-eight in the shade. The week ending Nov. 22 was unusually cold for the season—fifteen degrees below zero.

1896. June 14, the buildings of Leland E. Heath were destroyed by fire.

1897. May. 26, a distinct shock of an earthquake was felt a little after ten o'clock a. m. Another shock was felt at 2.30 a. m., July 1.

1897. The spring of this year was unusually wet. For forty-five days previous to June 14, with two or three exceptions, rain fell every day. The rain of the night of June 9 was one of the severest known. In twelve hours three inches fell. Water in the lake rose one inch per hour and the next day reached a depth of 126 inches on the apron. A stone in the highway to mark the high water of 1843 was covered two or three inches. The Pemigewasset river rose six feet in six hours. Several land slides on the railroad; one between the depot and engine-house buried the track ten feet deep for 100 feet or more.

1897. July 6, there was a succession of severe thunder showers. Lightning struck in several places. Dr. J. C. Wheet was fatally injured by his horse taking fright at a bolt of lightning striking near him. His horse suddenly turned, throwing him on some rocks, and dragging him some distance. High-

ways badly washed, and the Pemigewasset rose to within three feet of the high-water mark of 1895. During a thunder shower July 23, lightning struck the wall on the roadside near Solon Dolloff's, more than a mile from Central square, chipped off pieces of rock weighing 100 pounds or more from boulders, then passed up a tree to a telephone wire, and on it to the village, where it burned out all the telephones and prostrated several persons on the streets. This bolt seemed to come from the bowels of the earth, since the sun was shining brightly at the time.

1898. Two weeks of storms previous to Feb. 3, the severest since the blizzard of 1888. Deep snows, roads obstructed, temperature from fifteen to twenty degrees below zero in Bristol village; twenty-five degrees below zero at Crawford's corner in Alexandria.

1898. At 4 p. m., Nov. 26, a great snow storm commenced and continued just twenty-four hours. A northeast gale prevailed, and the snow as it fell was piled in a way that would have done credit to a February blizzard. Eight inches of snow was the estimate made at Bristol, as only the edge of the storm reached here. Eighteen inches fell at Concord, two feet at Manchester, and about this amount through the southern part of New England. Along the coast the loss of life was appalling. More than two hundred lives were lost and two hundred vessels destroyed, including the Portland, with every soul on board, supposed to number over 150.

1899. Monday morning, Feb. 13, snow commenced to fall, and continued all day, constantly increasing in severity. By night a heavy blizzard was raging and continued all night with unabated fury, piling the snow in immense drifts, effectively blockading travel on the highways. Such a night as Monday night is seldom seen even in this land of deep snows and high winds. The morning found the roads impassable. Every man who had a snow shovel was using it, and Central square presented a novel scene. Merchants and clerks were for once all engaged in the same business. Hotel Bristol was completely surrounded by a drift six feet deep, which resembled a barricade. Road Agent Henry A. Welch was perched on the snow roller, handling the reins with six horses attached, and all day long it passed and repassed in an effort to make the streets passable. The noon train left Bristol an hour late Monday, and that was the last seen of it till Thursday evening. The amount of snow that fell in Bristol was variously estimated at from twelve to eighteen inches. The storm extended from the Atlantic to the Mississippi river, and was one of the most destructive known.

1899. Some of the severest electric storms ever experienced in Bristol, swept over the town on the afternoon and evening of July 4. Great damage was done to crops and trees, and the



highways were so badly washed that they were impassable in many places. The first shower came from the southwest about 2 p. m., and brought but little rain and lightning; but about fifteen minutes later a much heavier one came from the northwest and continued till after four o'clock. This shower returned after having almost passed, and the last visit was more severe than the first. About six o'clock another storm came from the north and this was more destructive than either of its predecessors. It lasted over an hour. Crops were laid low, trees were blown down, highways deeply gullied, and fields covered with mud and sand. The thunder and lightning were almost incessant, rain fell in torrents, and the wind blew almost a hurricane. Over four and one-fourth inches of rain fell during the afternoon. Every telephone in town was burned out, and the electric light plant injured so that the town was in darkness. The water in the lake rose one foot, and the river rose two feet. The bridge over the Danforth brook was washed away, and the huge rocks of one abutment carried several rods down stream. The road bed, for thirty feet, was carried away at this point. The damage to the highways of the town amounted to \$2,000, while the damage to private property was as much more. The lightning struck in many places, including the spire of the Congregational church and several dwellings. Many persons and animals were prostrated, but no person was killed. Charles A. Gale had two cows killed.

#### OLD HOME WEEK

1899. Old Home week was first observed in New Hampshire in 1899 in compliance with the suggestion of Gov. Frank W. Rollins. The week selected for this purpose was that commencing on Monday, Aug. 28. Bristol observed Tuesday, Aug. 29. The day opened with a parade of the industries of the town which was the finest ever witnessed in Bristol. Capt. W. A. Beckford was marshal, and Harry J. Wilbur, assistant. Nearly every industry and business in town was represented by floats or trimmed carriages. Music was furnished by the Odell band, of Franklin. The parade moved from Central square through Pleasant, Lake, Union, North Main, South Main, Church, Second, Beech, Spring, Merrimack, and Summer streets. A very appropriate and attractive decoration was placed on the lawn at the residence of Frederick Bartlett, Esq. There were the old-fashioned fireplace with brass andirons, candlesticks, old-fashioned chairs, an ancient tin baker, and table chairs, and other antique articles. Above all was a flag on which were the words, "Old Home." The parade over, a few selections were given by the band, and then all wended their way to the grove of Silas S. Brown on the shore of Newfound lake. Here, a grand stand had been erected on which were settees. Tables



were spread with a bountiful supply of food, and dinner was served to the band and a large number of visitors, while hot coffee and ice water were furnished gratuitously to the one thousand or more people present. Immediately after refreshments, the exercises of the afternoon commenced, Hon. Ira A. Chase presiding. The program opened with selections from the band, followed with the rendition of "Old New Hampshire Home" with cornet solo by Master Ernest Giles, the people joining in the chorus under the direction of Fred H. Briggs. Prayer was offered by Rev. David Calley. Introductory remarks were made by the chairman, followed by William A. Berry, Esq., Bristol; Albert P. Worthen, Esq., Boston; Rev. Albert W. Jefferson, Bristol; Prof. Fred L. Pattee, State College, Penn., and Rev. Charles O. Judkins, Montpelier, Vt. Charles W. Johnson, of Boston, read a poem on "Pasquaney" and another on "New Hampshire Old Home Day." Miss Jessie D. Alexander recited Marion Douglass's poem, "Old Home Week." Miss M. Alice Browne, of Boston, gave a vocal solo. Letters of regret were read from Hon. Levi P. Morton and Hon. Napoleon B. Bryant. During the day there was a boat race on the lake, and a ball game in North Main street park in the latter part of the afternoon, and a band concert in Central square at eight o'clock. A large number of former residents were present; every one entered into the pleasures of the hour with zest, and the great success of the day was the remark of all.

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1899. The annual reunion of the survivors of the 12th N. H., Vols., of the Civil War, was held in Bristol Sept. 27.

#### OLD HOME WEEK

1900. The second observance of Old Home week in Bristol occurred Wednesday, Aug. 15. There was a fine bicycle and trade parade in the morning in which all the merchants participated led by the Hill cornet band. Capt. W. A. Beckford was marshal, and Dr. G. A. Yeatter, aide. Elbridge S. Bickford commanded a division of sixty bicyclists. Places of business, the hotel, and many private residences were decorated. At the conclusion of the parade the weather was so threatening the proposed picnic and exercises on the shore of the lake were abandoned. Dinner was served at the town hall, and there public exercises were held in the afternoon. The president of the day, Capt. R. W. Musgrove, gave an historical opening address. This was followed by addresses by Hon. Ira A. Chase, Hon. Lewis W. Fling, and Wm. A. Berry, Esq., of Bristol, and Warren E. Locke, of Boston. Karl M. White, of Rochester, N. Y., recited "Deestrick Number 3" written by William C. White, and responded to an encore. Addresses followed by P. G. Carleton, Malden, Mass., Dea. Lorenzo M.

Currier, Penacook; William I. Musgrove, Springfield, Mass.; John H. Musgrove, Pittsfield, Mass.; Austin H. Roby, Boston, and Prof. Fred Lewis Pattee, State College, Pa., who read an original poem. Miss Anna B. Musgrove gave a vocal solo. A ball game between old timers and up-to-dates took place later in the afternoon. The band gave an open air concert in Central square in the early evening, and a ball at Hotel Bristol closed the day.

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1900. The summer of 1900 was unusually dry. Winter came without the usual fall rains, and water in the lake was the lowest on record, causing the mill owners much inconvenience. Only thirty-three inches of snow fell during the winter, yet the cold weather was so uninterrupted there was good sleighing from Dec. 10 till the first days of April, 1901. During that month came abundant rains.

#### PRESIDENT MCKINLEY MEMORIAL SERVICES

1901. September 6, President McKinley was assassinated at Buffalo, N. Y., and died on the 14th, following. Sept. 19, all that was mortal of the late president was consigned to the tomb. In Bristol all business was suspended, and mills, shops, stores, and schools were closed. Flags and the national colors, trimmed in black, were thrown to the breeze and adorned many places of business and private residences. The mortar in Central square was decorated, and on an easel, placed on the mound, was a picture of the late president. Memorial services were held at the Methodist Episcopal church at two o'clock in the afternoon. Nelson Post, G. A. R., attended in a body and occupied seats in front. The church was elaborately decorated. The altar and choir railing were wound in black, and strewn with white asters. Flags, surmounted with black bows, were at either end of the altar rail, and white flags trimmed with black graced the organ and various other points of the church. In front of the pulpit was a life-size picture of President McKinley, draped in flags with a bank of white asters in front, surmounted by a pure white dove, while far above was suspended another dove. The combined choirs of the Methodist, Congregational, and Free Baptist churches sang, under the leadership of Capt. Frank A. Gordon; Mrs. R. W. Musgrove, organist. Among the selections sung was the late president's favorite, "Nearer, My God, to Thee." Addresses were made by Rev. Lyman D. Bragg, Rev. John W. Savage, Rev. Taplin J. Winslade, Hon. Lewis W. Fling, Hon. Ira A. Chase, and Capt. Richard W. Musgrove. The last named presented the following resolutions which were adopted by a rising vote:

WHEREAS, This nation and the civilized world rests under the shadow

of a great national calamity, in the death of William McKinley, president of the United States, and are horror stricken at a dastardly crime committed by an enemy of all governments, we, citizens of Bristol, in mass meeting assembled, hereby give expression to our condemnation of the crime and the doctrine that prompted it, and unite our tears and profound sorrow with those of all lovers of law and good government.

*Resolved*, That in this hour of national affliction we recall with great satisfaction and pride, a life devoted to the good of the Republic. We recall his services when a young man, a volunteer in the Union army, periling his life for the preservation of the Union; his fourteen years of honorable service in the Congress of the United States; his four years of distinguished service as governor of Ohio; his brilliant record as president of the United States, during which he has had the highest interest and good of the republic constantly at heart; his spotless Christian character both in public and private life, and the heroism and Christlike spirit with which he met the last sad drama of his life, all of which have endeared him to the American people to an unusual degree.

*Resolved*, That we hereby put ourselves on record in favor of the enactment of such laws as will tend to restrict the acts and teachings of anarchists. We are in favor of the largest liberty of the press and the platform, consistent with the highest welfare of society, but opposed to an unbridled license, the product of which is crime of the darkest dye.

#### PUBLIC PARK

1902. On the third of October, William G. Kelley, of Bristol, died, leaving a will which made the town of Bristol residuary legatee of his estate, and named Marshall W. White, Charles Boardman, and George H. Hammond as his executors. This will, after making a few specific bequests, and providing for an annuity of \$150 to be paid to his sister, Mrs. Mary Jane Gordon, contained the following clause :

All the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate \* \* \* \*  
I give in trust to Marshall W. White, Charles Boardman, and George H. Hammond, all of Bristol, N. H., to be used and expended for the benefit of the town of Bristol, N. H., if said town sees fit to accept it upon the conditions herein provided, otherwise I give the same absolutely, to the New Hampshire Orphans' Home, located in Franklin, N. H. My wish is, to provide for a public park or common in said town of Bristol, and for this purpose said trust is established. If said town will, within three years of my decease, vote to accept my gift of said rest, residue and remainder, and within that time, appoint a committee of three legal voters thereof, and the three trustees of my estate, a joint committee to find, locate, and buy, a suitable piece of land contiguous to the village of Bristol, N. H., for a public park, and said town will authorize and instruct said committee to buy the same, for said purpose, and will hereafter keep and maintain the same for said purpose, the fund committed as above to said trustees may be thus employed and used, any time within five years from my decease, and I do not limit or restrict the town in the matter of use to be made of the land, beyond the one general condition, that whatever land is purchased with said money, or any part thereof, shall forever be kept as a public park and, whether the whole trust fund so provided shall in the first instance be paid out for land for said purpose, or whether only one-half, or from one-half to the whole, and the remainder be used in improvements thereon, and for maintaining the lands and improvements as a park for the public, I will leave to the discretion of said joint committee.



Messrs. White and Hammond declined to serve, and the court appointed Charles W. Fling, Esq., and Fred H. Ackerman in their stead. At the November election in 1902, the town voted to accept the legacy and appointed Dr. George H. Calley, Henry C. Whipple, and George B. Cavis as the committee on the part of the town to act with the executors as the joint committee.

Commencing with 1899, the town appropriated fifty dollars each year for the purpose of leasing of Gustavus Bartlett the field west of North Main street for a public park, to provide a playground for the children and a baseball ground for the young men. At the March election in 1902, Charles H. Dickinson and Henry C. Whipple were made a committee to ascertain what this field could be purchased for. They reported at the November election in 1902, that Mr. Bartlett would dispose of it to the town for a park for \$2,000, and as the price was reasonable and the land was "especially well located for a public park" they recommended its purchase by the town. As Mr. Bartlett had generously declined to accept better prices from other parties till the town could act, and as the prospective funds from the Kelley estate could not be available in season to secure this land under the offer made, Messrs. Dickinson and Whipple, as a committee on the part of the town, were instructed to purchase the land for the town, and borrow the money with which to pay for it from the Kelley estate. This was done and the deed to the town was passed Dec. 16.

At the March election in 1903, the following report was presented :

The committee of three legal voters elected at the November, 1902, town meeting, to act in connection with the trustees of the William G. Kelley estate, beg leave to report that, after carefully considering the several places that have been suggested by different people, as suitable for a public park, they are of the unanimous opinion and would recommend that the town vote to authorize this committee to purchase for said purpose the Bartlett field, so called, now owned by the town, also such other real estate as they may think advisable or needed for park purposes,

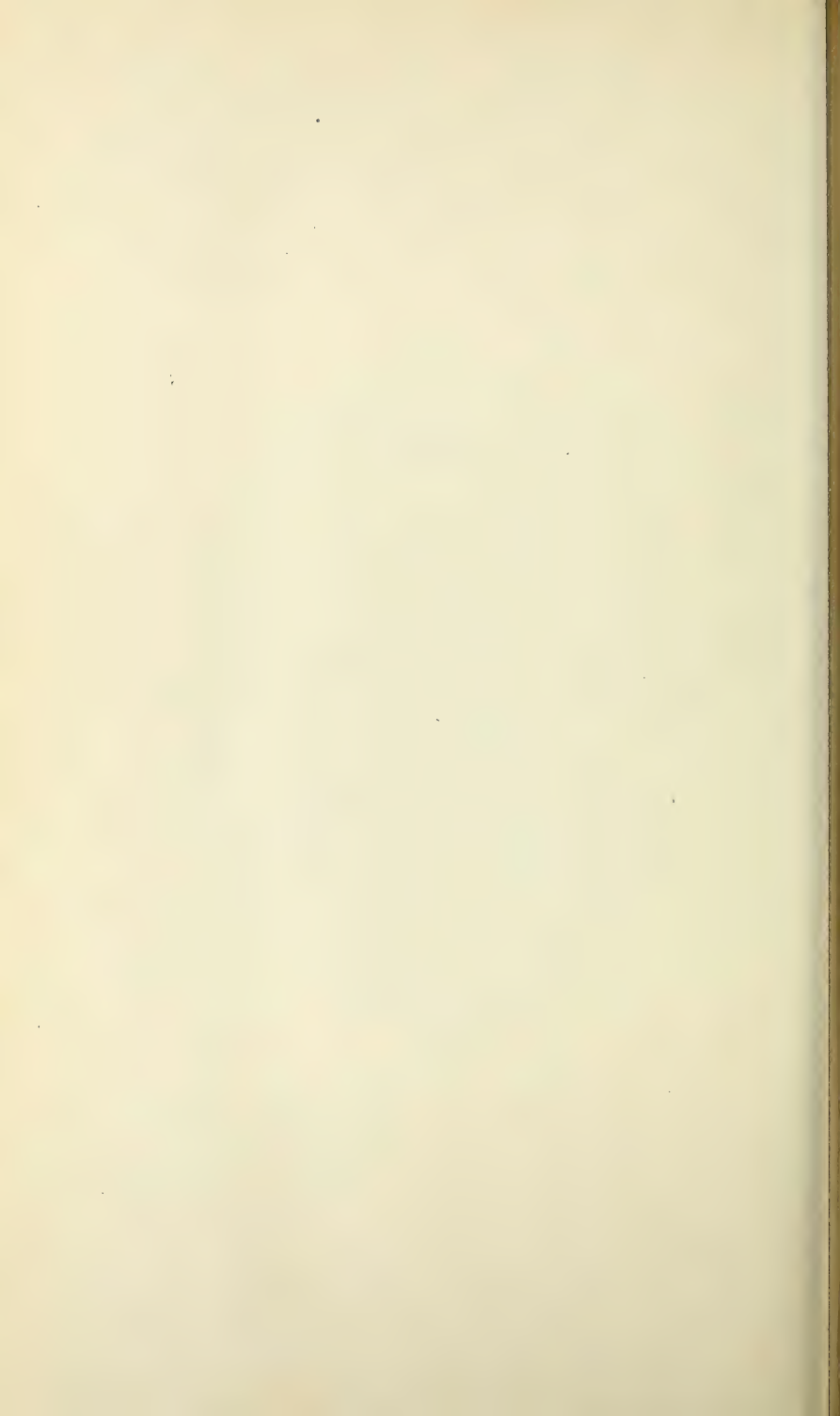
George H. Calley,  
Henry C. Whipple,  
George B. Cavis.

This report was accepted and adopted. It seems, therefore, that the Bartlett field will constitute a part of the park purchased with the avails of the proceeds of the William G. Kelley bequest. This field is located in the center of the village and contains about five acres. It has a frontage on North Main street of over 600 feet, commencing at a point directly opposite the Methodist Episcopal church. The amount available for park purposes, after all legacies and annuities have been paid, is expected to be about \$15,000.





WILLIAM G. KELLEY



1902. The weather during the entire year was unusual. Snow disappeared early in March, and the latter part of this month, the thermometer indicated ninety degrees in the shade. May 29, the thermometer again reached this point, but not during the summer months. During August the thermometer ranged in the vicinity of forty degrees above zero at sunrise and about seventy-five degrees during the middle of the day. During the haying season there were clouds and rain nearly every day for four weeks and much of the hay crop was ruined. November was exceptionally warm and pleasant. Crops were plenteous except corn, which did not mature. The fruit crop was as large as ever known.

1902. March 1, Rural free delivery route, No. 1, was established from Bristol post-office, Edward A. Blake, carrier.

1902. July 19, there was a sharp shock of an earthquake.

# APPENDIX A

## TOWN OFFICERS

The lists are here given in full of the moderators, town clerks, selectmen, treasurers, and collectors of New Chester and Bridgewater previous to the incorporation of Bristol in 1819, and of Bristol since that date. The publication of all the officers of the town would swell the volume to unseemly proportions, and is not, therefore, attempted.

The figures at the left of the names give the year when elected, those at the right the number of consecutive years serving from that date.

### MODERATORS AT ANNUAL MEETINGS

#### New Chester

1773	Col. John Goff	1	1797	Theophilus Sanborn	1
1774	Nason Cass	1	1798	Ephraim Webster	1
1775	Andrew Craige	1	1799	Theophilus Sanborn	1
1776	Abner Fellows	1	1800	Ephraim Webster	1
1777	Thomas Crawford	1	1801	Edward Blodgett	1
1778	Abner Fellows	3	1802	Ebenezer Kimball	6
1781	John Cleveland	1	1808	John Searle	1
1782	Nason Cass	1	1809	Ebenezer Kimball	1
1783	David Emerson	1	1810	John Wadleigh	2
1784	Ephraim Webster	2	1812	A. G. Stevens	1
1786	Thomas Crawford	1	1813	John Wadleigh	1
1787	John Smith	1	1814	Jonathan Dickerson	1
1788	Nason Cass	1	1815	John Wadleigh	1
1789	Ephraim Webster	5	1816	John Huse	1
1794	Theophilus Sanborn	1	1817	William W. Sargent	3
1795	Ephraim Webster	2			

#### Bridgewater

1788	Daniel Heath	1	1805	Benjamin Boardman	2
1789	Jonathan Carlton	2	1807	Moses Lewis	4
1791	Benjamin Boardman	3	1811	Benjamin Boardman	2
1794	Daniel Morse	1	1813	Moses Lewis	1
1795	Benjamin Boardman	4	1814	Francis J. Tay	2
1799	Moses W. Sleeper	2	1816	No records	
1801	Benjamin Boardman	3	1817	Francis J. Tay	1
1804	Moses Kelly	1	1818	Joseph Flanders	2



## Bristol

1820	Capt. Joseph Flanders	4	1875	David P. Prescott	2
1824	Robert Smith	3	1877	Benjamin F. Perkins	2
1827	Nathaniel S. Berry	2	1879	William A. Berry	2
1829	Walter Sleeper	1	1881	Benjamin F. Perkins	1
1830	Robert Smith	3	1882	William A. Berry	1
1833	Nathaniel S. Berry	6	1883	David P. Prescott	1
1839	Walter Sleeper	2	1884	Benjamin F. Perkins	1
1841	Samuel C. Brown	10	1885	Cyrus Taylor	2
1851	Oscar F. Fowler	1	1887	George A. Emerson	2
1852	Samuel P. Fernald	1	1889	Benjamin F. Perkins	2
1853	Andrew J. Wright	1	1891	Ira A. Chase	1
1854	Frederick Bartlett	1	1892	George A. Emerson	1
1855	Calvin Swett	1	For two years, Nov. elections		
1856	George Tenney	3	1892	Ira A. Chase, 2 terms	
1859	Samuel K. Mason	1	1896	Fred H. Ackerman, 1 term	
1860	William A. Berry	14	1898	Ira A. Chase, 3 terms	
1874	Samuel E. Holden	1			

## TOWN CLERKS

## New Chester

1773	Joshua Tolford	1	1807	William W. Sargent	8
1774	Carr Huse	33	1815	Daniel Favor	5

## Bridgewater

1788	Thomas Crawford	21	1813	John Harriman	4
1809	Ichabod C. Bartlett	2	1817	John Tolford, Jr.	1
1811	John Pillsbury	2	1818	Nathan Fletcher	2

## Bristol

1820	James Minot	5	1855	David E. Everett	4
1825	Philip Webster	4	1859	Marshall W. White	5
1829	Samuel C. Brown	4	1864	Levi D. Johnson	2
1833	Solomon Cavis	3	1866	John P. Taylor	5
1836	Sherburn S. Worthen	4	1871	Richard W. Musgrove	3
1840	William L. Chase	2	1874	Charles H. Day	1
1842	Levi Bartlett	4	1875	Allen W. Bingham	5
1846	Jacob N. Darling	3	1880	Richard W. Musgrove	3
1849	Hadley B. Fowler	2	1883	Charles H. Calley	4
1851	George M. Cavis	1	1887	Charles W. Fling	2
1852	George W. Ingalls	1	1889	Austin H. Roby	2
1853	George M. Cavis	2	1891	David M. Calley	13

## SELECTMEN

## New Chester

1773	Thomas Crawford	3	1777	Thomas Crawford	3
	Cutting Favor	1		Jonathan Ingalls	1
	Carr Huse	7	1778	Peter Sleeper	2
1774	Peter Sleeper	1	1780	John Smith	1
1775	Robert Forsaith	1		Robert Forsaith	1
1776	Ebenezer Ingalls	1		David Emerson	1
	Benjamin Emmons	1	1781	Thomas Crawford	3

1781	Carr Huse	3	1801	Edward Blodgett	2
	Peter Sleeper	3	1803	Jonathan Dickerson	1
1784	Ephraim Webster	2		James Karr	2
	Theophilus Sanborn	2		John Brown	2
	Jacob Gurdy	2	1804	William W. Sargent	10
1786	Carr Huse	3	1805	John Wadleigh	2
	Thomas Crawford	2		Moses Sleeper	1
	Peter Sleeper	3	1806	James Karr	2
1788	Reuben Wells	3	1807	Moses Sleeper	2
1789	Theophilus Sanborn	5	1808	John Wadleigh	2
	Timothy Sargent	2	1809	Jonathan Dickerson	3
1791	Phineas Sargent	1	1810	Moses W. Sleeper	1
	Thomas Favor	1	1811	Samuel Sleeper	3
1792	Carr Huse	2	1812	Moses Wells	1
	William Murray	1	1813	John Huse	1
1793	Thomas Wells	1	1814	Caleb Sargent	1
1794	Peter Sleeper	3		John Wadleigh	1
	William Searle	1		Jonathan Dickerson	1
	Cutting Favor	1	1815	William W. Sargent	1
1795	Samuel Wells	1		John Huse	2
	Carr Huse	1		Isaac Dodge	1
1796	Theophilus Sanborn	3	1816	David Buswell	1
	Enos Towne	1		Pitfield Sawyer	1
1797	Carr Huse	2	1817	William W. Sargent	3
	Sanborn Wells	1		Caleb Aldrich	1
1798	Sethus Forbes	2		John Gale	1
1799	Ebenezer Kimball	4	1818	Samuel Sleeper	1
	Jonathan Dickerson	1		Samuel Hoit	1
1800	William Searle	1	1819	Robert Smith	1
	Peter Sleeper	1		Jonathan Dickerson	1
1801	William W. Sargent	2			

## Bridgewater

1788	Thomas Crawford	4	1803	Thomas Crawford	3
	Simeon Cross	1	1804	Robert Craige	6
	Michael Moshier	2		Caleb Pillsbury	1
1789	Jonathan Carleton	2	1805	Ebenezer Kelly	5
1790	Jacob Gurdy	4		Daniel Brown	5
1791	Timothy Kelly	2	1810	Timothy Tilton	1
1792	Benjamin Boardman	1		John Harriman	1
1793	Thomas Crawford	8		John Fellows	1
	Simeon Cross	2	1811	Robert Craige	6
1794	Samuel Worthen	1		Benjamin Boardman	1
1795	Jacob Gurdy	2		Daniel Brown	6
	Jonathan Jewett	1	1812	Daniel Sleeper	1
1796	John Harriman	3	1813	Eliot Durgin	1
1797	William Pingree	1	1814	Benjamin Cross	1
1798	Daniel Morse	1	1815	Nathan Fletcher	1
1799	Moses Lewis	1	1817	John Harriman	3
	Daniel Sleeper	5		Robert Mitchell	3
1800	Caleb Pillsbury	2		Caleb Pillsbury	2
1801	Moses Lewis	3	1819	Abraham Dolloff	1

## Bristol

1820	Joseph Flanders	1	1821	Robert W. Moore	2
	Moses W. Sleeper	1		Walter Sleeper	2
	John Clough	1		Jacob Gurdy	3

1823	Moses W. Sleeper	2	1859	Stephen Nelson	2
	Joseph Moore	7	1860	Calvin D. Cass	1
1824	John McClary	1	1861	John Hastings	2
1825	Jacob Gurdy	1		Philip S. Drake	2
	Gilman Ingalls, Jr.	5	1863	Samuel H. Rollins	3
1826	Nathaniel S. Berry	1		James T. Sanborn	3
1827	John H. Sanborn	1	1865	John W. Sanborn	1
1828	Ebenezer Kendall	3	1866	William A. Berry	1
1830	Robert W. Moore	4		Samuel Dustin	1
	William L. Chase	2		David Mason	1
1831	Gilman Ingalls, Jr.	2	1867	Daniel S. Mason	4
1832	Daniel Darling	1		John F. Cass	3
1833	John H. Sanborn	1		Calvin H. Mudgett	3
	John S. Bryant	1	1870	George T. Crawford	2
1834	Samuel T. W. Sleeper	3		Charles N. Drake	2
	Nicholas Dolloff	2	1871	William A. Berry	2
	John Kidder	1	1872	Jeremiah A. Haynes	1
1835	Walter Sleeper	1		Robert S. Hastings	2
1836	Nathaniel S. Berry	1	1873	Ebenezer K. Pray	3
	Jonathan Emmons	2		James H. Brown	2
1837	Nicholas Dolloff	2	1874	Caleb L. Clay	1
	Walter Sleeper	1	1875	Solon Dolloff	2
1838	David Sanborn	2		Woodbury Sleeper	2
	Joseph Moore	3	1876	Seth Cass	2
1839	Jeremiah H. Prescott	1	1877	Frederick Bartlett	1
1840	Favor Locke	1		Augustus J. Ferrin	2
	Joseph Rollins	1	1878	John H. Brown	4
1841	Gilman Ingalls, Jr.	3		Robert A. Horner	3
	Samuel C. Brown	5	1879	Richard S. Danforth	3
	Walter Sleeper	1	1881	Silas S. Brown	3
1842	Jeremiah H. Prescott	1	1882	Robert S. Hastings	2
1843	Walter Sleeper	2		Augustus J. Ferrin	3
1844	Daniel S. Mason	3	1884	John R. Connor	2
1845	Reuben Rollins	1		Simeon H. Cross	4
1846	Gilman Ingalls, Jr.	1	1885	Fred W. Bingham	1
	John M. R. Emmons	4	1886	John H. Brown	2
1847	Levi Bartlett	2		Homer Roby	2
	Henry Wells	2	1888	George A. Emerson	3
1849	Gilman Ingalls, Jr.	1		Ebenezer K. Pray	1
	Calvin Swett	2		Charles E. Mason	2
1850	Samuel C. Brown	1	1889	Clarence A. Smith	1
	Joseph Kidder	1	1890	Smith D. Fellows	1
1851	Nathan Sleeper, Jr.	1		Herbert H. Follansbee	1
	Samuel H. Rollins	1	1891	Simeon H. Cross	2
	H. P. Stevens	1		Green L. Tilton	1
1852	Calvin Swett	3		William A. Berry	2
	Daniel B. Bartlett	2	1892	Charles P. George	1
	Daniel S. Mason	1	1893	John R. Connor	3
1853	Frederick Bartlett	1		Hiram T. Heath	4
1854	Daniel S. Mason	2		Green L. Tilton	5
	John M. R. Emmons	1	1896	William A. Berry	2
1855	James T. Sanborn	2	1897	Charles E. Davis	4
	Silas S. Brown	3	1898	John A. Favor	3
1856	Thomas R. Emmons	1		Hiram T. Heath	2
1857	John M. R. Emmons	1	1900	Simeon H. Cross	1
	Levi Locke	1	1901	James W. Saunders	3
1858	Frederick Bartlett	1		Albro Wells	3
	Walter Hayward	1		Frank S. Kirk	1
	Joseph Kidder	2	1902	Erastus T. Hutchins	2
1859	Levi Bartlett	6			

## TAX-COLLECTORS

With the exception of the years 1774 and 1775, no tax-collectors were elected in New Chester till 1793, the duty of collecting the taxes being imposed upon the constables. A common practice was to have the collection of the taxes struck off in open town meeting to the lowest bidder, and if such bidder could procure satisfactory bondsmen on the spot, he was elected. One or two instances occurred where bondsmen could not be procured, and then the collector's berth was again put up at auction.

The compensation for collecting the taxes varied greatly. Previous to 1819 the largest amount paid by New Chester was four per cent.; the usual amount was about three per cent. In 1797, 1798, and 1801, a gross sum was paid, being \$7, \$6, and \$8, respectively. In 1814, Isaac Hill gave the town one-half of one per cent. for the privilege of collecting. Previous to 1819, Bridgewater generally paid a lump sum, \$11 being the highest salary paid. In 1795, Robert Craige secured the office at \$6.50; the next year, competition brought the price down to \$4.49; Samuel Stearns secured the office in 1797 at \$4.67; the next year at \$1, and the next year, to secure the berth, he gave the town seven shillings. In 1814, Isaac Hill gave the town one-half of one per cent. for the privilege of collecting.

In Bristol, the custom of selling the office at auction continued for some years. The highest compensation was that paid Walter Sleeper, in 1821 — three and one-half per cent.; the lowest was that paid Stephen Nelson — one-half of one per cent. In later years the tax-collector has been sometimes elected in town meeting, but oftener appointed by the selectmen. The compensation paid during the last twenty-five years has been from \$90 to \$250 per year.

## New Chester

1774	Robert Forsaith	1	1807	Moses Stevens	1
1775	Jeremiah Quimby	1	1808	Peter Sleeper	1
1793	Nason Cass	1	1809	David T. Murray	1
1794	William Murray	1	1810	Isaac Hill	1
1795	Phineas Sargent	2	1811	A. G. Stevens	1
1797	Peter Wells	1	1812	Daniel Hoyt	2
1798	Nason Cass	1	1814	Isaac Hill	1
1799	Thomas Favor	1	1815	Luther K. Madison	1
1800	Peter Sleeper	1	1816	David T. Murray	1
1801	John Searle	2	1817	Moses Wells	1
1803	Thomas Favor	1	1818	Moses Currier	1
1804	Phineas Sargent	3	1819	Phineas Sargent	1

## Bridgewater

1793	Simon Harris	1	1794	Robert Craige	3
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1797	Samuel Stearns	3	1813	John Fellows, Jr.	1
1800	Simon Harris	2	1814	Stephen Eastman	2
1802	John Cleveland	1	1816	Abraham Dolloff	1
1803	Nathan Pillsbury	1	1817	John Clough	2
1804	John Cleveland	5	1819	Joseph Huckins	1
1809	Dudley Hilton	4			

## Bristol

1820	Walter Sleeper	3	1851	Reuben Rollins	2
1823	Gilman Ingalls, Jr.	2	1853	Levi Locke	1
1825	Daniel Sanborn	1	1854	Calvin P. Fellows	1
1826	Nathan Sleeper	1	1855	Abbott Lovejoy	1
1827	Abbott Lovejoy	1	1856	John W. Sanborn	1
1828	Daniel Sanborn	2	1857	James T. Sanborn	3
1830	John Paige	1	1860	Samuel K. Mason	1
1831	Aaron Emmons	2	1861	J. Martin Sleeper	2
1833	Daniel Darling	1	1863	Kiah Wells	2
1834	Benjamin Emmons	1	1865	Levi Locke	1
1835	John S. Bryant	1	1866	Calvin Cass	1
1836	Michael Hoyt	1	1867	John P. Taylor	1
1837	Benjamin Emmons	1	1868	Seth Cass	6
1838	John S. Bryant	1	1874	Woodbury Sleeper	1
1839	Abbott Lovejoy	1	1875	Seth Cass	3
1840	Daniel S. Mason	1	1878	William A. Beckford	1
1841	Jeremiah H. Prescott	2	1879	Kenyon E. Dearborn	1
1843	Stephen Nelson	1	1880	Milo Fellows	4
1844	Abbott Lovejoy	1	1884	Charles S. Flanders	2
1845	Gilman Ingalls, Jr.	1	1886	Milo Fellows	8
1846	Abbott Lovejoy	1	1894	David M. Calley *	1
1847	Walter Sleeper	1	1895	Charles Boardman	1
1848	Samuel H. Rollins	1	1896	Milo Fellows	5
1849	Joseph S. Chase	2	1901	Charles Boardman	2

## TREASURERS

## New Chester

There are no records showing that a treasurer was elected in New Chester till 1779, when Jonathan Merrill was elected. Between this date and 1810, Carr Huse was elected fourteen times, and may have served during all these years. In 1810, it was voted not to elect. In 1813, Samuel Underhill was elected; in 1815, Daniel Favor, and in 1818, Ebenezer Kimball.

## Bridgewater

1788-98	None.		1805	Robert Craig	1
1799	Thomas Crawford	1	1806	Ichabod C. Bartlett	1
1800	None.		1807	Robert Craig	3
1801	Thomas Crawford	3	1810	William Pingree	1
1804	Moses Lewis	1	1811	Enoch Melvin	2

\* Milo Fellows elected and resigned on account of illness.

1813	John Fellows	3	1818	Benjamin Boardman	1
1816	No records.		1819	Simon Harris	1
1817	Ichabod C. Bartlett	1			

## Bristol

1820	Ichabod C. Bartlett	1	1855	Levi Locke	2
1821	John Clough	1	1857	Calvin D. Cass	3
1822	Ichabod C. Bartlett	11	1860	James M. Bishop	10
1833	Solomon Cavis	3	1870	William L. Chase	5
1836	Sherburn S. Worthing	4	1875	Ebenezer K. Pray	1
1840	Solomon S. Sleeper	3	1876	Charles Boardman	2
1843	Samuel H. Stevens	1	1878	George A. Emerson	1
1844	Oscar F. Fowler	1	1879	Lucius W. Hammond	2
1845	Abbott Lovejoy	1	1881	Lucian A. Ballou	1
1846	Levi Bartlett	1	1882	William George	2
1847	Abbott Lovejoy	3	1884	Ira A. Chase	1
1850	Solomon Cavis	4	1885	Charles Boardman	2
1854	Jacob S. Eaton	1	1887	Charles H. Dickinson	17

## CONSTABLES

Until the year 1793, with the exception of 1774 and 1775, constables collected all the taxes assessed in New Chester. For some years, commencing with 1794, one of the duties of the constable was to take the warrant for town meetings from the hands of the selectmen and call the meeting over his signature. He also served writs, warned people out of town with papers placed in his hands by the selectmen, and performed other duties now performed by the police. For the first ten years, one constable was sufficient for the whole town of New Chester; but, in 1783, two were elected, one for the lower part of the town and the other for the upper part. Peter Sleeper was the first constable, being elected in 1773. After the incorporation of Bridgewater, one was elected in each town till 1811, when New Chester elected three and Bridgewater two. Bristol elected one or two constables each year till 1861; since then, none. On the list of constables are such honored names as Samuel Worthen, Col. Thomas Crawford, John Smith, Robert Smith, Nathaniel S. Berry, Sherburn S. Merrill, and Napoleon B. Bryant.

## SURVEYORS OF HIGHWAYS

The duties of the highway surveyors were to keep the roads and bridges in repair. The collection of the highway tax was committed to them, and when this tax was not paid in labor it was collected in money, and the money expended on the highways. Gradually the selectmen of Bristol assumed the care of the highways and no highway surveyors were elected in Bristol after 1869. Bristol had thirteen highway districts in 1820, and

twenty in 1860. The total number of different men elected in town meeting to this office in New Chester and Bridgewater previous to the incorporation of Bristol, and in Bristol previous to 1870, was 636. In New Chester, Peter Peaslee served twelve years, Waite Stevens and Phineas Sargent, each ten; in Bridgewater, John Fellows served twelve years, Abraham Dolloff and Jacob Peaslee, each ten; in Bristol, William Mudgett served eighteen years, John H. Sanborn, twelve; Timothy Chandler and John Hastings, each eleven.

#### SURVEYORS OF WOOD, BARK, AND LUMBER

It was formerly the custom to have wood, bark, and lumber, bought or sold, measured by a sworn surveyor. In New Chester, previous to 1820, this duty was performed by officers elected under the designation of surveyors of wood and lumber. Carr Huse filled this office twenty-four years, and John Smith twenty-one years before the incorporation of Bristol. Bridgewater, during the same years, elected surveyors of wood and lumber, and later, corders of wood, and surveyors of lumber.

In Bristol surveyors of lumber and corders of wood were two distinct offices. The latter was soon changed to surveyors of wood and bark. About 1855, both offices were merged into one and designated surveyors of wood and lumber, or surveyors of wood, bark, and lumber. These officers were elected each year till 1874. There was no limit to the number elected. Nominations were made from the floor and a nominee never failed of an election. There was no compensation except from the individuals employing the surveyor, and rarely then for measuring small quantities. During the time these officers were elected, 205 different persons filled the office in Bristol and some served many years in succession. Robert Smith served twenty-nine years; Daniel S. Mason, twenty; and Jesse F. Kendall, twelve. It gradually became the custom for parties interested to agree on the amount bought or sold without the intervention of a sworn surveyor, and there were no elections to this office after 1874.

#### SEALERS OF LEATHER

The duties of the sealers of leather were to measure or weigh leather bought or sold. New Chester first elected this officer in 1784, afterwards only occasionally; and Bridgewater first in 1808, but neither town filled the office each year. Bristol elected this officer only a few times. The first to fill this office in New Chester was Timothy Sargent. Sherburn Sanborn, John Smith, and Theophilus Sanborn served previous to 1800. In Bridgewater, Timothy Tilton, Jerahmeel Bowers, Daniel Sleeper, John Harriman, and Ichabod C. Bartlett served

previous to 1820. Those who served in Bristol were Theophilus Sanborn, James Chase, Nathaniel S. Berry, Jonathan Merrill, John H. Sanborn, and William L. Chase.

#### SEALERS OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The duty of sealers of weights and measures was and is to test the accuracy of all weights and measures in town used in buying and selling. Although the law still requires this test to be made once a year, it is seldom done, and this officer is never elected in town meeting. In former years the office was not filled every year. Previous to 1820, New Chester elected this officer only fifteen times, and Bridgewater only about half the time. Bristol filled this office nearly every year till 1874, but not since then. Samuel Page filled the office for ten years from 1853. The selectmen have on one or two occasions since 1874 appointed a man to fill this office.

#### CULLERS OF STAVES

It was the duty of cullers of staves to inspect staves bought or sold in town. This office was first filled in New Chester in 1819, when Edward Shaw and Richard Dearborn were elected. Bristol elected two or more each year till 1857. From 1857 till 1874 the office was filled spasmodically. Rufus Eaton was elected ten times, Samuel Muzzey twice, and Oscar F. Morse and Joseph S. Chase, each once. Since 1874 none have been elected.

#### FENCE VIEWERS

The duties of fence viewers seem to have been to decide on the sufficiency of any fence when this was questioned by interested parties, and to decide who should build and keep in repair division fences when parties interested requested them to act. Since 1873, this officer has not been elected, and has been appointed by the selectmen a few times, only, to act in particular cases.

#### HOG-REEVES

The duties of hog-reeves were to protect the fields from the depredations of swine running at large. Hog-reeves were allowed a shilling for taking up and putting a yoke on one of these animals or putting a ring in its nose to prevent its rooting. The yoke was to be "as long above the neck as the depth of the neck and one-half as long below." The ring was to be of strong, flexible wire inserted in the nose to project one inch above it. At the first town meeting in Bristol, the young men recently married or about to be married were elected to this



office and that custom continued till 1857, since which time none have been elected.

#### HAYWARDS OR FIELD-DRIVERS

In some towns the haywards or field-drivers were the same as hog-reeves, but in New Chester and Bristol it was a distinct office. Their duty appears to have been to protect the fields from the depredations of other animals than swine. Cattle, horses, and sheep running at large were taken up by them and impounded. The fee for taking up a sheep was three pence, for neat cattle and horses, one shilling. New Chester first elected this officer in 1793. Bristol elected this officer fourteen times previous to 1835, when the town voted not to elect, and only once afterwards (1837) was there an election of field-drivers.

#### POUND-KEEPERS

The pound-keepers had charge of the pounds of the town, and took care of the cattle taken up by the field-drivers. They were entitled to a small fee before releasing the animals so detained. Joseph Sanborn was keeper of the pound between "Cutting Favor's house and his grist-mill" from 1795 till 1811. In 1811, New Chester built a pound of stone "within one hundred rods of the meeting house." Of this pound John Wadleigh was keeper in 1813 and 1814, and Samuel Favor from 1815 to 1819.

Bridgewater first erected pounds in 1794, when one was built at John Peaslee's and one at John Kidder's. John Peaslee was keeper of the first for eleven years and John Fellows of the second for ten years. Bristol elected no pound-keepers after 1832.

#### TITHINGMEN

Tithingmen were petty officers of the town whose duty it was to maintain order and proper decorum at church during divine worship, to enter complaints against disorderly persons or places in the community, and to prevent unnecessary traveling on the sabbath. This officer was first elected in New Chester in 1776, when Nason Cass was chosen. The office was not again filled till 1784, when four — Nason Cass, Jonathan Crawford, Abner Fellows, and Jonathan Merrill — were elected. The office was evidently unpopular at an early day and those elected sometimes refused to take the oath. Between 1784 and 1819 in New Chester, the office was vacant seventeen years by the town neglecting to elect or those elected refusing to serve. John Hastings and John Somes were the first who refused, in 1798. The next year, Noah Whitcomb and William Searle were

elected but they refused, and later there was increasing difficulty in filling the office. In Bridgewater the same difficulty existed. Bristol succeeded in electing men to this office till 1833, when it was voted to postpone the election of tithingmen. This vote was repeated in 1834 and no effort was made to elect tithingmen after that date.

#### DEER-KEEPERS AND FISH-WARDENS

The deer-keeper was an officer elected for the protection of deer. Thomas Locke and Chase Fuller filled this office in 1779, and Cutting Favor and Ephraim Webster in 1790. After this date this office seems to have been merged into that of fish-warden, who was elected for the preservation of salmon in the Pemigewasset river. New Chester elected this officer till 1818, and Bridgewater till 1811, but not later. During the last twenty-five years the law has required the election or appointment of fish and game-wardens, whose duty has been to prosecute persons guilty of violating the fish and game laws.

#### COMMITTEE TO LAY OUT HIGHWAYS

In the early years of the town, committees were elected for the purpose of laying out highways. New Chester elected such a committee five times before 1800. In years when this committee was not elected the selectmen acted, and later the laying out of highways was considered as a part of the regular duties of the selectmen.

#### ASSESSORS

The assessors were officers elected for the special purpose of assessing the valuation of the town. New Chester elected a board of assessors but three times before 1800. Ephraim Webster was at the head of this board each year. Peter Sleeper served two years, and John Smith one.

#### TOLLERS OF THE BELL

From 1854 till 1869, one or more persons were elected annually as bell-tollers. Calvin Golding served the first year; Andrew J. Smith and Samuel Berry were elected in 1856, and the latter served each year till 1868, when he was succeeded by Calvin Cass, who served one year. After this there was no election to this office. The fee for this service was twenty-five cents for each time the bell was tolled.

#### SEXTONS

Commencing with 1824, sextons, or grave-diggers, were

elected as officers of the town. Abel Danforth and Gilman Ingalls were elected that year. Mr. Danforth continued to serve seventeen years and Mr. Ingalls twelve. Timothy Chandler served twenty-one years in the Locke neighborhood; Edmond W. Cheney served nine years at North Bristol, and Leander Badger served as sexton of the North Main street cemetery ten years, till 1854, when that cemetery ceased to be used. On the opening of the new Pleasant street cemetery, Ezekiel N. Worthen was elected sexton and served nine years, and George A. Robie served six years, till 1869, since which date there has been no election of sextons.

## POLICE

Since the election of constables was discontinued the selectmen have generally appointed one or more police officers, and on one or two occasions since the adoption of the secret method of voting, police officers have been elected. No complete records of those filling this office exist, but among them have been John W. Wells, who served several years, George S. Knox, David P. Prescott, Charles R. Keezer, Stephen P. Kirk, Charles S. Flanders, Francis W. Calley, Green L. Tilton, John H. Thurston, Frank W. Bingham, Eben Seaver, Henry A. Welch, Jerome G. Wells, Frank S. Kirk, Wesley H. Dicey, Charles W. Sanborn, Herbert Braley, Elwood S. Lougee, John R. Connor, Edward S. Gilman, Charles C. Martin. Of these Mr. Thurston probably served the largest number of years.

## BOARD OF HEALTH

The health officers of the town have been appointed by the selectmen, but, till recent years, the records show but few appointments. When there were no health officers the selectmen have acted when occasion required. Clarence A. Smith has filled this office for over twenty years. Others who have served in this capacity in recent years are Dr. James M. Bishop, Hon. Ira A. Chase, Dr. Channing Bishop, David M. Calley, and Charles W. Fling, Esq.

## SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECK-LIST

Previous to 1878, the duty of revising the check-list devolved on the selectmen. The law of 1878 created a board of three supervisors for each town or ward, who are elected at the biennial elections in November to serve two years. The following have served in Bristol:

1878	Henry A. Randolph	4	1880	Robert S. Hastings	2
	Frederick Bartlett	4	1882	Robert A. Horner	2
	George A. Emerson	2		Albert Blake, Jr.	2

1882	Charles H. Calley	2	1892	Silas S. Brown	4
1884	Marshall W. White	2		Orlando B. French	6
	Charles N. Drake	2		James W. Saunders	6
	Frederick Bartlett	2	1896	Edward A. Blake	4
1886	Alfred P. Harriman	6	1898	Clarence A. Smith	6
	George A. Emerson	2		John R. Connor	6
	Robert S. Hastings	6	1900	Orlando B. French	2
1888	Kenson E. Dearborn	4	1902	Willard S. H. Remick	2

## INSPECTORS OF ELECTION

Since 1892, when the so-called Australian system of secret voting went into effect, two inspectors of elections from each of the two largest political parties in town have been appointed by the selectmen, upon nomination in caucus. Two of these, detailed as ballot clerks, have charge of the ballots, giving them to the voters in a manner prescribed by law, and the other two assist the illiterate and physically disabled in the marking of their ballots. The following have served in this capacity :

1892	Homer Roby	8	1898	Smith D. Fellows	4
	David Perkins	12	1900	Joseph N. Dickinson	2
	Orlando B. French	10	1902	William H. Marston	2
	John H. Brown	4		Wilbur F. Gale	2
1896	Fred H. Ackerman	2		Wilmer C. Cox	2

## DOG KILLERS

In accordance with the provisions of an act passed in 1891, entitled "An act to prevent the destruction of sheep and other damages by dogs," the selectmen appoint annually some one, usually a policeman, "to kill or cause to be killed all dogs owned or harbored within the town that are not licensed and collared according to law and to enter complaint against the owners." The law in regard to licensing dogs has been very generally complied with, and but few canines have suffered death at the hands of the dog killer.

## ROAD AGENTS

Since 1894, one or more road agents have been elected at the March meeting who have had charge of the highways. Bristol elected three each year till 1899, since then, only one. The following have served :

1894	Robert S. Hastings	2	1897	Simeon H. Cross	2
	Henry A. Welch	1	1898	Nathan P. Smith	1
	Burley M. Ames	1		Henry A. Welch	1
1895	Horace N. Emmons	3	1899	Green L. Tilton	2
	Martin B. Pray	1	1901	Gustavus Bartlett	1
1896	Ebenezer K. Pray	2	1902	A. H. Towns	1
	Henry A. Welch	1	1903	Henry A. Welch	1



## STATE AND COUNTY OFFICERS

## STATE SENATORS

1824	Moses H. Bradley	1871	Lewis W. Fling
1827	James Minot	1872	Lewis W. Fling
1835	Nathaniel S. Berry	1883-4	Benjamin F. Perkins
1836	Nathaniel S. Berry	1891-2	Richard W. Musgrove
1869	Cyrus Taylor	1901-2	Ira A. Chase
1870	Cyrus Taylor		

## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Napoleon B. Bryant, 1852-1853	George T. Crawford, 1871-'77
John C. Blaisdell, 1856; 1861-'63	Robert A. Horner, 1881-'85
Oscar F. Fowler, 1857-'60	Silas S. Brown, 1885-'89
Samuel K. Mason, 1869-'71	

## COUNTY TREASURERS

George T. Crawford, 1868-'69	Robert A. Horner, 1890-'95
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## REGISTERS OF DEEDS

Charles H. Day, 1877-'81	George H. Kendall, 1895-1903
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## COUNTY JUSTICE

Oscar F. Fowler, June, 1850-Aug. 1855

## JUDGE OF PROBATE

Samuel K. Mason, July, 1874-July, 1876

## DEPUTY SHERIFFS

## Bridgewater

Simon Harris, 1807-'18	John Boardman, 1818
Samuel Tay, 1812	Joseph Flanders, 1818-'19
Jonathan Sinclair, 1817	

## Bristol

Joseph Flanders, 1819-'26	David P. Prescott, 1864-'74
Isaac Fields, Jr., 1821	Charles H. Day, 1874-'76
Arthur L. Webster, 1826-'33	William A. Beckford, 1876-'80
Richard H. Sawyer, 1829-'35	James T. Sanborn, 1880-'83
John S. Bryant, 1836-'40	Moses F. Wilbur, 1883-'85
Jeremiah H. Prescott, 1840-'49	Charles S. Flanders, 1885-'87
Asa Martin, 1849-'51	John H. Brown, 1887-'91
Joseph S. Chase, 1855	LaForest S. Ballou, 1891-'93
David P. Prescott, 1856	George H. Kendall, 1893-'95
James T. Sanborn, 1856-'64	Clarence A. Smith, 1895, still serving

## ASSISTANT CLERK OF SENATE

Ira A. Chase, 1883-'86

## CLERK OF SENATE

Ira A. Chase, 1887-'90

## ASSISTANT CLERK OF HOUSE

Charles G. Emmons, 1878-'80

## CLERK OF HOUSE

Charles G. Emmons, 1881-'82

## CORONERS

Carr Huse, New Chester, 1784  
Daniel Heath, Bridgewater, 1784

D. Morse, Bridgewater, 1809-'19  
M. Sleeper, N. Chester, 1811-'14

## DELEGATES TO CONVENTIONS

1778. At a convention held at Concord, June 10, to form a new state constitution, New Chester, Plymouth, Cockermouth, and Alexandria were represented by Francis Worcester.

1779. Sept. 21, a convention was held at Concord "to regulate the prices of such articles as the convention should think best." Each town was requested to send a delegate. The member from New Chester was Carr Huse.

1781. The constitutional convention of 1781 had seven sessions. The first was held June 5, 1781; the last, Oct. 31, 1783. Twice, recommendations were rejected; the third draft proposed was adopted and became the constitution of 1784. New Chester elected John Smith to represent that town, but he evidently was not given a seat, as New Chester, Plymouth, Cockermouth, and Alexandria were represented by Francis Worcester and Samuel Emerson.

1788. In the convention which met at Exeter, Feb. 13, to ratify the constitution of the United States, New Chester, Cockermouth, and Alexandria were represented by Col. Thomas Crawford.

1791. In the constitutional convention at Concord, Sept. 7, New Chester, Bridgewater, Alexandria, and Cockermouth were represented by Col. Thomas Crawford.

1850. In the constitutional convention at Concord in 1850, Bristol was represented by Frederick Bartlett, Esq.

1876. In the constitutional convention which met at Concord, Dec. 6, 1876, the members from Bristol were Marshall W. White and William A. Beckford.

1889. The member from Bristol to the state constitutional convention which met at Concord, Jan. 2, 1889, was Gustavus Roby.

1902. Bristol was represented in the state constitutional convention which met at Concord, Dec. 2, 1902, by Hon. Ira A. Chase.

## APPENDIX B

### VOTES FOR PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Previous to 1775 the governor of New Hampshire was appointed by the crown. In May, 1775, the royal governor, John Wentworth, withdrew and the province was governed by a convention, of which Matthew Thornton was president. A temporary constitution was adopted in January, 1776, under which Meshech Weare served as president of the council and chairman of the committee of safety till June, 1784. Under the constitution of 1784, the chief executive of the state was called president, and so continued till the convention of 1792, when the title was changed to governor. The following is a record of votes cast for the chief executive of the state from 1784, when the first president of New Hampshire was elected.

#### New Chester

1784	Meshech Weare	27	1795	John T. Gilman	53
	Josiah Bartlett	13	1796	John T. Gilman	24
	John Cleveland	1		Timothy Walker	13
		— 41		Oliver Peabody	24
1785	Josiah Bartlett	36			— 61
	John Sullivan	19	1797	John T. Gilman	50
	John Langdon	1	1798	John T. Gilman	74
		— 56	1799	John T. Gilman	65
1786	John Langdon	40	1800	John T. Gilman	81
1787	John Langdon	32		Ebenezer Kimball	1
	Josiah Bartlett	10			— 82
	John Sullivan	2	1801	John T. Gilman	86
		— 44	1802	No record	
1788	John Langdon	21	1803	John T. Gilman	65
	Josiah Bartlett	1		John Langdon	21
		— 22			— 86
1789	John Pickering	26	1804	John T. Gilman	88
1790	John Pickering	18		John Langdon	5
	Woodbury Langdon	6			— 93
		— 24	1805	John T. Gilman	70
1791	Josiah Bartlett	40		John Langdon	30
1792	Josiah Bartlett	35		John Wadleigh	1
1793	Josiah Bartlett	44			— 101
1794	John T. Gilman	53			

1806	John T. Gilman	30	1813	William Plumer	89
	John Langdon	70		John T. Gilman	77
	Jeremiah Smith	1		Scattering	2
	John Wadleigh	2			—168
		—103	1814	William Plumer	97
1807	John T. Gilman	17		John T. Gilman	82
	John Langdon	72			—179
		—89	1815	William Plumer	98
1808	John Langdon	68		John T. Gilman	94
	John T. Gilman	28			—192
		—96	1816	William Plumer	100
1809	John Langdon	66		James Sheafe	91
	Jeremiah Smith	66			—191
		—132	1817	William Plumer	112
1810	John Langdon	78		James Sheafe	72
	Jeremiah Smith	64		Scattering	1
		—142			—185
1811	John Langdon	83	1818	William Plumer	105
	Jeremiah Smith	68		Jeremiah Mason	64
	Ebenezer Kimball	1			—169
		—152	1819	Samuel Bell	97
1812	William Plumer	81		William Hale	52
	John T. Gilman	60		Scattering	1
		—141			—150

## Bridgewater

1788	John Langdon	28	1802	John Langdon	32
	Samuel Livermore	1		John T. Gilman	25
		—29			—57
1789	John Pickering	44	1803	John Langdon	43
1790	John Pickering	21		John T. Gilman	37
	Joshua Wentworth	5		Scattering	1
		—26			—81
1791	Josiah Bartlett	47	1804	John T. Gilman	36
1792	Josiah Bartlett	38		John Langdon	49
1793	Josiah Bartlett	52			—85
1794	John T. Gilman	54	1805	John Langdon	72
1795	John T. Gilman	44		John T. Gilman	55
					—127
1796	Timothy Walker	42	1806	John Langdon	94
	John T. Gilman	1		John T. Gilman	3
		—43			—97
1797	John T. Gilman	36	1807	John Langdon	97
	Simeon Olcott	1		John T. Gilman	1
		—37		Jeremiah Smith	1
		48			—99
1798	John T. Gilman		1808	John Langdon	96
1799	John T. Gilman	50		John T. Gilman	6
	Daniel Morse	3		Moses Lewis	3
		—53			—105
1800	John T. Gilman	58	1809	Jeremiah Smith	87
	Timothy Walker	6		John Langdon	83
	Scattering	3			—170
		—67	1810	Jeremiah Smith	91
1801	John T. Gilman	42		John Langdon	70
	Timothy Walker	10			—161
		—52			



1811	John Langdon Jeremiah Smith	99 69 —168	1815	John T. Gilman William Plumer	101 81 —182
	John T. Gilman William Plumer Scattering	91 86 1 —178	1816	No records	
			1817	James Sheafe William Plumer Jeremiah Mason	80 85 2 —167
1813	John T. Gilman William Plumer	111 81 —192	1818	William Plumer Jeremiah Mason Jonathan Jewett	91 84 1 —176
1814	John T. Gilman William Plumer	114 79 —193	1819	Samuel Bell William Hale	71 68 —139

## Bristol

1820	Samuel Bell John Orr Robert Smith David Sterrett	91 5 2 1 —99	1830	Timothy Upham Matthew Harvey	88 66 —154
1821	Samuel Bell John Orr Scattering	86 4 1 —91	1831	Samuel Dinsmoor Ichabod Bartlett	67 97 —164
1822	Samuel Bell John Orr Scattering	93 2 4 —99	1832	Ichabod Bartlett Samuel Dinsmoor	85 74 —159
1823	Levi Woodbury Samuel Dinsmoor Scattering	83 37 3 —123	1833	Samuel Dinsmoor Arthur Livermore Scattering	111 18 7 —136
1824	David L. Morrill Levi Woodbury Scattering	97 13 5 —115	1834	William Badger George Kent Scattering	90 59 4 —153
1825	David L. Morrill Scattering	112 4 —116	1835	William Badger Joseph Healey	89 68 —157
1826	David L. Morrill Benjamin Pierce	53 46 —99	1836	Isaac Hill George Sullivan Scattering	93 60 7 —160
1827	Benjamin Pierce Scattering	107 1 —108	1837	Isaac Hill Andrew Pierce William Badger Scattering	79 18 4 12 —113
1828	John Bell Benjamin Pierce Scattering	60 66 1 —127	1838	James Wilson Isaac Hill Scattering	110 104 9 —223
1829	John Bell Benjamin Pierce Scattering	84 66 2 —152	1839	James Wilson John Page	118 102 —220

1840	Enos Stevens	122	1851	Samuel Dinsmoor	64
	John Page	109		Thomas E. Sawyer	81
	Scattering	3		John Atwood	74
		—234		Nathaniel S. Berry	3
1841	Enos Stevens	108			—222
	John Page	79	1852	Thomas E. Sawyer	75
	Daniel S. Hoit	21		Noah Martin	69
	Scattering	2		John Atwood	59
		—210		Nathaniel S. Berry	3
1842	Enos Stevens	66			—206
	John H. White	32	1853	Noah Martin	81
	Daniel S. Hoit	44		James Bell	72
	Henry Hubbard	74		John S. White	70
	Scattering	1			—223
		—217	1854	Nathaniel B. Baker	89
1843	Anthony Colby	86		James Bell	35
	Henry Hubbard	48		Jared Perkins	119
	John H. White	30			—243
	Daniel S. Hoit	21	1855	Nathaniel B. Baker	79
	Scattering	1		Ralph Metcalf	162
		—186		Asa Fowler	6
1844	Anthony Colby	86		James Bell	8
	Henry Hubbard	48			—255
	John H. White	30	1856	Ichabod Goodwin	13
	Daniel S. Hoit	21		John S. Wells	70
	Scattering	1		Ralph Metcalf	153
		—186		Scattering	1
1845	Anthony Colby	75			—237
	John H. Steele	37	1857	John S. Wells	78
	Daniel S. Hoit	84		William Haile	153
	Scattering	4			—231
		—200	1858	William Haile	173
1846	Nathaniel S. Berry	94		Asa P. Cate	79
	Anthony Colby	68			—252
	Jared W. Williams	42	1859	Ichabod Goodwin	163
	Scattering	1		Asa P. Cate	83
		—205		Scattering	1
1847	Nathaniel S. Berry	88			—247
	Anthony Colby	89	1860	Ichabod Goodwin	172
	Jared W. Williams	50		Asa P. Cate	87
	Scattering	2			—259
		—229	1861	Nathaniel S. Berry	151
1848	Nathaniel S. Berry	166		George Stark	84
	Jared W. Williams	71		Scattering	3
	Anthony Colby	5			—238
	Scattering	2	1862	Nathaniel S. Berry	155
		—244		George Stark	83
1849	Samuel Dinsmoor	61		Scattering	4
	Levi Chamberlain	65			—242
	Nathaniel S. Berry	79	1863	Joseph A. Gilmore	153
		—205		Ira A. Eastman	86
1850	Samuel Dinsmoor	68		Walter Harriman	18
	Nathaniel S. Berry	80			—257
	Levi Chamberlain	73	1864	Joseph A. Gilmore	190
		—221		Edward W. Harrington	79
					—269

1865	Frederick Smith	186	Fall Elections	
	Edward W. Harrington	78		
		—264	1878	Natt Head 246
1866	Frederick Smith	193		Frank McKean 135
	John G. Sinclair	87		Warren G. Brown 4
	Scattering	1		—385
		—281	1880	Charles H. Bell 244
1867	Walter Harriman	185		Frank Jones 145
	John G. Sinclair	90		Warren G. Brown 2
	Scattering	7		—391
		—282	1882	Samuel W. Hale 222
1868	Walter Harriman	242		M. V. B. Edgerly 150
	John G. Sinclair	107		Scattering 1
		—349		—373
1869	John Bedel	94	1884	Moody Currier 242
	Onslow Stearns	216		John M. Hill 150
		—310		Larkin D. Mason 8
1870	Lorenzo D. Barrows	30		George Carpenter 3
	Samuel Flint	38		—403
	John Bedel	72	1886	Charles H. Sawyer 201
	Onslow Stearns	206		Thomas Cogswell 170
		—346		Joseph Wentworth 7
				—378
1871	James A. Weston	126	1888	David H. Goodale 248
	James Pike	219		Charles H. Amsden 185
	Scattering	1		Edgar L. Carr 7
		—346		—440
1872	John Blackmer	12	1890	Hiram A. Tuttle 232
	James A. Weston	143		Charles H. Amsden 177
	Ezekiel A. Straw	221		J. M. Fletcher 2
		—376		—411
1873	John Blackmer	20	1892	John B. Smith 232
	James A. Weston	111		Luther F. McKenney 180
	Ezekiel A. Straw	187		William O. Noyes 2
	Samuel K. Mason	17		—414
		—335	1894	Charles A. Busiel 235
1874	John Blackmer	49		Henry O. Kent 125
	James A. Weston	142		George D. Epps 3
	Luther McCutchins	204		Daniel C. Knowles 5
		—395		—368
1875	Person C. Cheney	231	1896	George A. Ramsdell 245
	Hiram Roberts	149		Henry O. Kent 88
	Nathaniel White	25		John O. Berry 11
		—405		George W. Barnard 13
1876	Person C. Cheney	248		Harry H. Acton 13
	Daniel Marcy	145		—370
	Asa S. Kendall	3	1898	Frank W. Rollins 230
		—396		Charles F. Stone 138
1877	Daniel Marcy	144		Augustus G. Stevens 11
	Benjamin F. Prescott	246		—379
	Scattering	2	1900	Chester B. Jordan 266
		—392		Frederick E. Potter 123
1878	Frank A. McKeen	150		Josiah M. Fletcher 7
	Benjamin F. Prescott	243		Sumner F. Clafin 5
		—393		—401

# APPENDIX C

## SCHOOL TEACHERS

The following is a list of those who have taught school in Bristol since 1850, and is as near complete as can be gathered from imperfect records. No record exists of school teachers previous to this date. Some of those named in this list taught many years previous to 1850. The date at the left indicates when the name first appears on the record; the figures at the right give, unless otherwise specified, the number of terms taught.

1850	Rachel L. Moore	3	1855	Sarah M. Nickerson	1
	Jane L. Moore	5		John Sanborn	1
	Maria G. Ayer	3		Abbie A. Locke	1
	Margaret H. Sleeper	2		S. J. Hawkins	1
	S. C. Roby	1		Annie M. Pierce	3
	S. S. Preston	1		Celesta E. Doton	2
	Ellen S. Sumner	1		Mary F. Ferson	3
	Laura L. Mudgett	2		Kate S. Smith	1
	Angelina Robinson	1		Laura A. Cass	1
	Sarah A. Sleeper	1		Maria A. Pike	1
	Angelina D. Smith	2		Olive J. Cheney	8
	Mary H. Cummings	1	1856	Sarah C. Moore	4
	Reuben Rollins	3		Ellen A. Sibley	1
1851	Amy A. Sargent	1		Oriette Whidden	1
	Milan Graves	1		Mary A. Woolson	1
	Miss P. W. Pope	1		Harriet A. Rogers	1
	Mary Pierce	1		Mary E. George	1
	Phineas B. Smith	1		C. A. Bean	1
	Martha A. Smith	1		A. Ann Huckins	1
	Mary Moore	3		Julia A. Spiller	3
1853	Levi N. Leavitt	1	1857	Martha A. Clark	1
	Emily Eaton	1		Lucina G. Pike	2
	David Plummer	1		Jonathan T. Jackson	1
	Henrietta A. Wright	1		Rebecca R. Haines	1
	Sarah J. Woodman	2		Susan M. Ross	1
	Mrs. R. E. Wells	1		Lizzie A. Randall	1
	Susan E. Bartlett	1		Kate S. Sawyer	2
	Julia A. Peabody	1		Almira S. Dolloff	1
	Alpheus C. Mitchell	1		Amanda A. Prescott	1
	Lydia C. Bean	1	1859	Eliza S. Tilton	1
	Susan D. Hazeltine	4		Charles R. Heath	1
	Lucy Ann Hardy	1		Annie Huckins	1
1854	Priscilla W. Pike	6		Julia A. Gordon	1
	Emma H. Chase	4		Carrie S. Culver	2



1859	Abbie M. Mitchell	1	1867	A. Melissa Gordon	1
	Mary E. Ferrin	1		L. H. Wilson	1
	Harriet E. Darling	5	1869	Emma M. Flanders	1
	Eliza A. Foster	1		Martha S. Nelson	2
	Josephine Moore	5		Kate L. Roby	4
1860	Ellen M. Emmons	1		Martha Emmons	3
	Maria Pattee	1		Clara M. Damon	2
	Helen S. Locke	1		Marcus L. Emmons	1
	S. F. Lougee	1		Annie W. George	1
1861	Miss A. H. Sargent	2	1871	Nellie M. Day	1
	Miss A. C. Goodwin	1		Etta M. Ray	1
	Mary J. Gilman	1		Mary E. Bartlett	1
	Sarah M. Roby	2		Nellie A. Wallace	2
	Miss S. A. C. Bean	2		Lovertia E. Emmons	1
	Miss M. J. Chase	1	1872	Belle Calley	1
	Levi D. Johnson	1		Mary E. Tilton	3
	Mehitable D. Wells	1		Almeda M. Emerson	1
	Miss L. E. Hardy	1		Emma S. Heath	1
	Myra S. Randall	1		Lizzie S. Morgan	2
	Mary F. Fellows	5		Mary E. Batchelder	2
	Rebecca P. Chase	1		Ida J. Gibbs	1
	George E. Colburn	1		Laura Jackman	1
1862	Sara M. C. Musgrove	5	1873	Flora J. Wells	2
	Sarah F. Herbert	1		Mahala Batchelder	2
	Hannah Fisher	1		Jennie S. Emmons	6
	Fanny E. Spalding	1		Cinda W. Heath	2
	William Reed, Jr.	1		Mary O. Taylor	1
	Addie H. Emmons	2		Ella J. George	1
	Stillman Clark	1	1874	Ida M. Dolloff	5
1863	Julia A. E. Wallace	3		Mary H. Clay	3
	Mary E. Patten	1		Miss L. M. Éstey	1
	M. Angie Yeaton	3		Inzie Straw	2
	Miss A. E. Crawford	2	1875	Ida J. Dalton	1
	M. Jennie Curtice	1		Anthe Robinson	2
	Anna B. Cheney	3		Henry C. Wells	2
1864	Narcissa T. Nutter	1		Lilla A. Nelson	4
	M. Frances Stewart	1		Miss M. F. Emmons	2
	Mary E. Patten	1	1876	David B. Plumer	2
	Annie M. Mitchell	1		Miss L. D. Calley	1
	Mary A. Locke	1		Finetta E. Nelson	1
	Nellie T. Burleigh	1	1877	Mary P. Payson	3
	Emma A. Sibley	1		Emma O. Curtice	2
	Addie C. Leavitt	2		Lizzie F. Clement	1
	Emma H. Dolloff	3		Mrs. L. D. Simonds	1
1865	Harriet A. Pike	2		Clara M. Smith	1
	S. Jennie Dearborn	1	1878	Caro T. Gordon	2
	Susan A. Pearson	1		N. Frances Eastman	1
	Emma P. Dolloff	1		Herbert E. Drake	2
	Sarah G. Sumner	1		Sara M. Swett	2
	Ella J. Bartlett	1		Annie M. Randolph	1
	Frances A. Plumer	4		Laura Whittemore	3
	Sarah E. Teele	1	1879	Hattie Sanborn	1
1867	R. Anna Tilton	1	1880	Emma M. Mudgett	1
	Abbie A. R. Hayes	1		Mary Abbie Bishop	1
	Laura A. Crockett	1		Grace E. Whitcomb	1
	Sarah L. Plumer	3		Lizzie B. Bishop	5
	Dorcas D. Calley	2	1881	Cora A. Hastings	1
	H. H. C. Ayer	1		Rebecca R. Blake	1
	Addie A. Buttrick	2	1882	Nellie M. Patten	2
	Laura Ellsworth	1		Nellie E. Hunkins	3

1882	Addie A. Emery	7	1892	J. Mamie Swain	2
	Ella Thompson	1	1893	Kate T. Piper	7
1883	Ella F. Atwood	1		M. A. Hutchins	2
	Lura M. Sleeper	1		F. E. Hall	4
	Annabelle Prescott	1		E. V. Flanders	2
	Alice L. Knox	1		M. M. Dolloff	7
	Mrs. H. Taylor Heath	3		Mary D. Musgrove	1
	Laura B. Sanborn	1	1894	Ida F. Pattee	2
1884	Susie M. Flanders	1		Sarah A. Fitzpatrick	1
	Kate Child	1		A. E. Flanders	1
	Della A. Tilton	1	1895	Grace M. Taylor	1
	Maud M. Knox	5	1896	Margaret J. Price	3
	Lizzie Meservey	1		Grace M. Dearborn	1
1885	Minnie M. Howard	4		Daisy M. Dearborn	1
	Mina Hill	3		S. Ivanette Sleeper	4
	Sarah M. Frye	1		Flora D. Adams	1
	Etta L. Clifford	1		Edith F. Wheat	4
	Sara A. Burleigh	16	1897	Alice Johnson	1
	Mary A. Morrill	4		Ivie V. Foster	1
1886	Maud I. Heath	5	1898	Ella M. Howard	1
	G. W. Gilman	3		Sadie H. Batchelder	1
	Alice J. Gove	1		Susan K. Weston	1
	Almeda M. Curtice	1	1899	M. Eva Rand	1
	Bertha O. Cawley	1		Rose J. Clement	1
1887	Nellie F. Mudgett	1		Hannah H. Sleeper	1
	Carrie E. Sanborn	1		Aletea E. Smith	2
1888	C. L. Brown	2		Corrona I. Weston	2
1889	Amy B. Drake	1		Sue Weston	2
	J. P. Tucker	1	1900	Ruth W. Favor	1
	D. M. Thomas	4		Annie E. Bailey	1
	M. N. Reading	2		Helen J. Clay	1
1890	Lela M. Pray	5		Mabelle A. Curtice	2
	Mina J. Kelley	7	1901	Ira Edgerly	1
	Ida M. Flanders	3		Carrie L. Horne	2
1891	Anne L. Judkins	1		Vivian A. George	1
	A. M. Hastings	2		Abbie A. Curtice	1
	A. Flanders	2		Bertha Matthews	2
	Flora D. Cass	3		Agnes H. Rowell	1
	E. M. Brown	3	1902	Harriet Wheat	2
	M. I. Sleeper	2		Orren E. Kingsbury	2
1892	Mabelle Robie	1		Jessie Babcock	2
	Nettie E. Wheat	3		Mary L. Cummings	1

## UNION DISTRICT

1867	Sarah L. Day	3 yrs	1871	Sarah E. Coffin	1 yr
	A. Melissa Gordon	1		Nancy A. Durgin	3 yrs
	Addie H. Emmons	1	1872	Austin S. Chase	1
	Ellen H. Fisher	2 yrs		George A. Emerson	2
1869	Miss E. E. Meservey	1		Eva F. Burnham	2 yrs
	George B. McClellan	1	1873	Emma M. Crawford	3 yrs
1870	Juliette Plummer	1		Mary F. French	1 yr
	Annette R. Huntoon	1	1874	Lydia A. Webster	1 yr
	Kate F. George	14 yrs		Eva G. Swan	1 yr
	Mary F. Alton	1		Addie A. Buttrick	2 yrs
	Anna M. Knox	1		Lillian S. Abbott	2 yrs
1871	Josephine Moore	1 yr	1875	Eva F. Burnham	1

1875	Eliza A. Flanders	1	1890	Lucy Nelson	1
	Ira A. Chase	4	1891	Owen W. Mills	1
1876	Mae L. Bickford	1 yr		Arthur L. Smith	2 yrs
	Sarah P. Webster	1 yr		Emogene Roby	3 1-3 yrs
	Susie Prescott	2	1892	Lettie C. Butrick	4 yrs
1877	Lilla A. Nelson	2 yrs		Arthur T. Seymour	1 yr
	George H. Calley	1	1893	Albert L. Pitcher	2 yrs
1878	E. Belle Calley	9 yrs		Lizzie A. Jones	1 yr
	Etta Payson	1 yr		Ardena Ingalls	1
1879	Mary Abbie Bishop	1 yr	1894	Florence Bowles	1 yr
	Lizzie Calley	1		J. Mamie Swain	5 yrs
1880	Mary L. Aldrich	1		Leona Howard	1
	Miss L. M. Hale	4 yrs	1895	S. B. Goodale	1 yr
	Flora F. Cilley	2 yrs		Mary L. Mudgett	1 yr
	Kate L. Roby	1 yr		Inez M. Maynard	3 yrs
1883	Addie M. Drake	2		E. M. Harriman	3 yrs
	Mary M. Cass	2 yrs	1896	Lena F. Smith	4
1885	Clara M. Smith	1		Grace O. Sargent *	
	Luella J. Locke	1 yr	1898	Mary E. Taylor	2 yrs
	A. B. Crawford	2		Nellie M. Norris	2
1886	Ethel A. Littlefield	1		Eva J. Barney	1 yr
	Annette H. Carleton	2		Grace M. Dearborn	4
	Carrie C. Dearborn	1		Florence Dodge	1 yr
1887	Amy B. Drake	1	1899	Fannie M. Stimson	1
	Helen A. Taylor	1		Mabel F. Lane	3 yrs
	Lizzie M. Page	3 yrs		Enid H. Adams	8
	Lizzie B. Bishop	4 yrs		E. Belle Calley *	
	Georgia E. Page	4 yrs	1900	Bertha Holbrook	1
1889	John P. Drake	2		Clara M. Ingalls *	
	Elizabeth A. Nelson	2 yrs	1901	Laura M. Bragg	1 yr
1890	Mary A. Morrill	5 yrs	1902	Alice P. Sargent *	
	Maud I. Heath	4		Maud L. Parker *	

\* Still teaching.

# APPENDIX D

## POPULATION

In May, 1773, the General Assembly apportioned to the four towns named below one representative, based on the polls and estates as follows :

Plymouth	.	.	.	67	polls	90	estates
New Chester	.	.	.	30	"	30	"
Cockermouth	.	.	.	20	"	17	"
Alexandria	.	.	.	12	"	9	"

Oct. 15, 1773, Gov. Wentworth ordered an immediate census of the state to be taken. The return from New Chester was as follows :

Men, 16 to 60, unmarried	.	.	.	.	.	5
Men, 26 to 60, married	.	.	.	.	.	31
Boys, 16 and under	.	.	.	.	.	63
Men, 60 years and upwards	.	.	.	.	.	2
Females, unmarried	.	.	.	.	.	46
Females, married	.	.	.	.	.	32
Widows	.	.	0;	slaves	.	0
						— 179

A census of New Chester taken by the selectmen Sept. 9, 1775, was as follows :

Males, under 16	.	.	.	.	.	66
Males, 16 to 50, not in army	.	.	.	.	.	32
Males, above 50	.	.	.	.	.	5
Males, in army	.	.	.	.	.	5
Females	.	.	.	.	.	88
Slaves	.	.	.	.	.	0
						— 196

The following is a return made by the selectmen of New Chester Sept. 25, 1783 :

Number of white inhabitants	.	.	.	.	353
Number of black inhabitants	.	.	.	.	0
Number of dwelling houses	.	.	.	.	26
Number of barns and other buildings	.	.	.	.	28
Number of acres of land	.	.	.	.	37,200



Dec. 12, 1783, the number of male polls, twenty-one years of age and upwards, in New Chester, was reported as sixty-six.

A census of New Chester taken in April, 1786, showed

Males	254	
Females	242	
	<hr/>	496

In 1790, the census of New Chester and Bridgewater was as follows:

	New Chester	Bridgewater
Males above 16 . . . . .	70	84
Males under 16 . . . . .	103	62
Females . . . . .	139	134
Slaves <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	0	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	312	281

	Bristol	Bridgewater	New Chester
1790 . . . . .		281	312
1800 . . . . .		664	615
1810 . . . . .		1,104	895
1820 . . . . .	675	727	971
1830 . . . . .	799	783	1,090
1840 . . . . .	1,153	747	999
1850 . . . . .	1,103	664	951
1860 . . . . .	1,124	560	918
1870 . . . . .	1,416	453	620
1880 . . . . .	1,352	384	667
1890 . . . . .	1,524	332	548
1900 . . . . .	1,600	244	603

<sup>1</sup> In 1790, there were 158 negro slaves in New Hampshire. Of these, twenty-one were in Grafton county, distributed as follows: Plymouth and Haverhill, each four; Orford and Piermont, each three; Hanover, two; Bath, Bartlett, Bridgewater, Campton, and Orange, each one.

## APPENDIX E

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After Chapter IV, of this volume, was printed the following affidavit was discovered on record in the office of the Register of Deeds at Woodsville by George H. Kendall, register, and by him kindly copied for this history. This affidavit is self explanatory :

Deposition of Joshua Tolford May 21, 1824 recorded 95-110.

I, Joshua Tolford of lawful age testify and say, that Robert Fletcher, Surveyor, went with my father, John Tolford, William Tolford & Thomas Wells, Committee for New Chester to run the lines for the town of New Chester he came on during the Indian Wars and found a camp just deserted with ashes not cold, he run the northerly line and marked a beach tree with coppers, he then struck for the westerly line and run about a mile and marked a lever wood tree which he called an elm tree and which I have seen, being frightened by the Indians he run no farther, but made his plan, making fictitious boundaries and returned it to the Committee. The Committee were dissatisfied and went themselves with the Committee for Alexandria with me seventeen hundred and sixty-five and again run the line, we started at a hemlock tree formerly the corner between New Chester and Alexandria and run south fifty three degrees west ten and three fourths miles by estimation and found the beech tree marked by Fletcher; we then run to the lever wood tree and found there must have been a mistake or some deception in Fletcher's survey. I then made a plan of the town and sent it to the Masonian proprietors, making the western line of New Chester a thorough line from the beech tree to the maple tree the northeastern corner of Andover. The Masonian proprietors met and adopted my plan as the true plan of the town and called Fletcher to an account for his mismanagement. Fletcher said he knew he did not run the lines and put up monuments as he ought, that what lines he drew on his plan were imaginary and not the true ones, as I had proved to the Proprietors they could not be the true ones, and Fletcher said he believed mine to be correct according to the true intent and meaning of the charter. He owned one fourth part of the town of Alexandria. The survey and plan which I returned to the Proprietors was always after considered & acknowledged to be the true one, since that time I have preambulated the lines eleven times and always run the western line of New Chester from the beech to the maple tree and never knew the line to be disputed before. I was for thirty years Clerk for the Proprietors of New Chester and have in my hands the original plan drawn by Fletcher which was always considered to be erroneous. The beech tree referred to made the south west corner of Alexandria formerly now Danbury, and also the corner of land called by Fletcher Heidleberg but which was never charter by that name.

Joshua Tolford.

## ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS

- Page 55. For Col. John Goff born 1801 read 1701.  
 Page 60. Second line from bottom, for 1878 read 1778.  
 Page 84. For south-east corner of Lot 38 in First Division read north-east corner.  
 Page 114. Fifth line from top, for "not sufficient to made" read not sufficient to make.  
 Page 115. For Sylvanus W. Sweat read Sylvanus W. Swett.  
 Pages 116, 122. For William H. Hannaford read William F. Hannaford.  
 Page 117. For Amasa Highlands read Amasa Hilands.  
 Page 133. For William A. Bickford read William A. Beckford.  
 Page 151. For Joseph Malvern read Joseph Melvin.  
 Page 177. First line, for 1881 read 1781.  
 Page 209. For Thomas E. Osgood, Co. D, read Co. C.  
 Pages 263, 265. For Enoch Malvern read Melvin.  
 Page 280. Seventh line from top, for "which was continued" read which were continued.  
 Pages 282 and 291. For Aspenwall read Aspinwall.  
 Page 328. For Oliver Blake read Oliver S. Blake.  
 Page 334. For Daniel Smith read Daniel S. Smith.  
 Page 335. For Addie J. Emmons read Addie H. Emmons.  
 Page 339. For Dr. Brodhead, second line from bottom, read Dr. Broadhead Wentworth.  
 Page 348. For Brittanica read Britannica.  
 Pages 368 and 394. For Nathaniel G. Upton read Nathaniel G. Upham.  
 Page 404. For Alvah A. Veasey read Albion A. Veasey.  
 Page 405. For S. S. Sanborn read S. S. Merrill.  
 Page 416. For Dr. John Charles Wheet read John Carlos Wheet.  
 Page 429. For Edward S. Foster read Edwin S. Foster.  
 Page 484. For Kendrick read Kenrick.  
 Page 491. For Marion Douglass read Marian Douglas.  
 Page 433. For "first election thereafter occurred Jan., 1873," read 1872.

The town of Cockermouth, mentioned frequently in these pages, constituted what is now Groton and a large part of Hebron.

"See Gen.," used in many places in this volume, means See Genealogies, Vol. 2.

# INDEX

This index contains the names of all persons mentioned in the preceding pages; also the names of towns, cities, mountains, lakes, rivers, brooks, roads, streets, battlefields, colleges, churches, etc., etc., and many topics.

The figures following the name refer to the page where it may be found. The superiors at the right of the figures indicate the number of times the name appears on the page.

The names of New Chester, Bridgewater, Bristol, and Hill are not indexed.

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